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CHRISTMAS.

Yesterday's Observances in This City and Elsewhere.

A RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY.

Services and Sermons in the Churches.

The Promised Festivities of Today.

CHRISTMAS ON THE SABBATH.

A Quiet, Religious Holiday—The Streets and the Churches Thronged—The Stockings Still Hanging at the Chimney-Corners.

Although Merry Christmas came yesterday on its own proper calendar time, it was not celebrated to any extent outside of the churches and the family circle. The weather was clear, but otherwise anything but pleasant. A furious, uncertain, bitter-cold wind prevailed; sudden gusts and whirling eddies filled the air with street dirt, assailing eyes, ears and nose with furious pertinacity, to the serious annoyance of pedestrians.

The law which sets forth the rule that when a legal holiday falls upon Sunday the succeeding Monday shall be observed instead, gives us twenty-four additional hours to celebrate this happy festival in a social way. Today, therefore, all business will be suspended. The United States, State, County and City offices, the Banks, the Insurance and other corporations, will remain closed. All obligations falling due to-day, will have a respite of grace until to-morrow. At the Post-office all the mails will close at 10 A.M. All the Courts stand adjourned until to-morrow. How many chimneys Santa Claus descended on Saturday evening, it is impossible to state, but probably a large proportion of his route was attended to last night. This morning, at the peep of day, undoubtedly there have been thousands of distended stockings emptied of their contents, and shouts of glee jar the echoes in all directions.

Judging from the vast amount of stock the sly old "Kris Kringle" levied from the stores on Saturday, there must be an extensive distribution in every household. Expectation has been on tip-toe, for the reasonable prosperity of business, and the moderate list of financial disasters has rendered most of us able to expect to give and receive presents. It certainly seems sad in the case of those who see others made happy with gifts and favors, while they go empty and neglected. It is to be presumed that no manly or womanly heart that has a vein of tenderness, could willingly suffer a single such instance to occur.

The TIMES has already given a full programme of the various festivals that have been arranged for the poor, in our benevolent and public institutions, and in another column is another list of the places where, and hours at which, these celebrations are to be held. There is yet abundant opportunity for good hearts to do kind deeds in this way. The poor are always with us. Multitudes of those who will attend these festivals today live in the humblest wretchedness. They seldom eat a full and wholesome meal, and never—except on these occasions, once or twice a year—enjoy anything like what we regard as our ordinary comforts. The food they will receive today they regard as choicest luxuries. There were some festivities yesterday, besides the church services, full reports of all of which will be found below.

Festivities at the St. Vincent de Paul's Lodging-House.

Yesterday was a day of gladness for some fifty boys who are provided with a home under the roof of the Lodging-house in Warren-street, which was opened five months ago by a committee of gentlemen connected with the St. Vincent de Paul Society. This Society, to which humanity owes so much, did not neglect their little guests on Christmas Day, but with a praiseworthy generosity feasted them right royally on a choice and substantial dinner of roast and boiled meats, poultry, puddings, pies, tea, cakes and confectionery, on which the boys did ample justice—gladness beamed on their countenances, and they evidently appreciated the kindness shown to them, considering, no doubt, that there were, perhaps, many poor little fellows in this vast City that the hands of charity had not reached on this day of rejoicing.

The majority of the lodgers are newsboys and boot-blacks, but the comforts of the House are open to all well-conducted youths. They receive two meals a day, with a third meal of roast meat and vegetables on Sundays, and are provided with good beds and bedding, besides having their garments washed and mended, all for twenty cents a day. Boys who remain the whole week and whose conduct has been satisfactory, are not charged for Sunday. Instruction is given each evening in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and religious instruction is given three times a week. Several members of the Committee attended during the day, and expressed themselves pleased at the manner in which their instructions had been carried out by the Superintendent.

Dinner at the Sixteenth Ward Boys' Lodging-House.

At the Sixteenth Ward Boys' Lodging-house, No. 211 West Eighteenth-street, over 100 boys partook of a sumptuous dinner, on Saturday evening. Roast turkey and plum-pudding were the order of the day. The dinner was provided by THEODORE ROOSEVELT, Esq., who always feels happy when enabled to contribute to the happiness of poor boys. Among the visitors present were Rev. Drs. Adams, Bleecker and Street; R. J. Livingstone and Charles E. Whitehead, and others. Appropriate addresses were made by all the reverend gentlemen, and by Messrs. ROOSEVELT and WHITEHEAD. Mr. HILBURNE ROOSEVELT accompanied the boys on the organ while they sang several suitable hymns.

Christmas Dinner of the Governor's Island Garrison.

On Saturday twenty-five kegs of lager were sent over to Governor's Island to add festivity to yesterday's dinner. Upward of 100 recruits and 300 regulars partook of an excellent meal. The regulars drew largely upon the "Post Fund" to furnish themselves with the concomitants of an excellent repast.

Christmas Among the Germans.

The ancient Yule Festival of the Germans was yesterday fully celebrated—with no postponement on account of the Sabbath—in the households of our German fellow-citizens, and in the various public places of resort—the main feature of the celebration being the display of the time-honored Christmas tree, illuminated in nearly every German family. While Christmas Eve was celebrated among the Germans *en famille*, yesterday the celebration was more public, and the numerous places of amusement yesterday were crowded throughout the day by a vast throng of pleasure-seekers. A number of the German vocal and musical societies were at their respective head-quarters, engaged in special Christmas festivities. The New-York Saengerrunde, a vocal society of long standing, was engaged in a series of Christmas festivities at the Germania Assembly Rooms, including a drawing of Christmas gifts, and a soirée dansante. The Arndt Maennerchor celebrated the birthday of our Savior and the second anniversary of its foundation, at the Harmonie Rooms, in Essex-street, by a concert and ball, which was well patronized. The Schillerbund was engaged in a Christmas soirée and a drawing for Christmas presents, at its head-quarters, Nos. 77 and 79 Essex-street, which was fully enjoyed by the numerous friends of this popular organization. The German churches were yesterday largely attended by the church-going portion of the German community, which postponed the social festivities until today, the "second Christmas Day," which is always celebrated in Germany, but here only accidentally this year.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCHES.

The Services Yesterday—The Sermons, Decorations and Music.

The Episcopal Churches yesterday seemed radiant with "the beauty of holiness." Wherever the eye turned it met beautiful emblems of the Nativity Festival. A heart that was not lightened by such glad-tiding reminders, must have been morbidly sorrowful. There were large congregations at each service whose joyous faces shone with the light of devotion. The altar ministrations were unusually impressive; all the pulpits echoed with eloquence, and the choirs and chimes surpassed those of all former occasions in their jubilant carols. Written on every forehead, speaking in every voice, looking out of every eye, and almost floating in the very atmosphere itself, seemed the angel's message: "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will toward men."

Trinity.

The services at Trinity Church were grand, solemn, and beautiful. In the early morning the chimes rang out merrily upon the frosty air, every tone seeming charged with praise, and each bell appearing to vie in sweetness with the others. Long before the hour of service Broadway was crowded with people and carriages, all hurrying toward this same Christmas Mecca. At 10 o'clock the interior of the vast edifice was jammed, the pews and benches and extra chairs were filled; hundreds stood in the aisles and on each side of the chancel; the vestibules and porches were packed. In vain hundreds of anxious seekers without begged to just squeeze in—it was impossible. Many more were turned away than the number within. At 11 o'clock the orchestra, consisting of forty-two string, reed, brass instruments and kettle-drums, stationed in the gallery, executed the opening overture, "Adeste Fideles." At its conclusion, the procession of clergy and choristers entered, singing "O Come All Ye Faithful" to the air of the "Portuguese Hymn." Rev. Mr. DENNISON read the Litany. The Introit was then sung, also the Kyrie and Nicene Creed. Rev. Dr. VINTON delivered an eloquent and able sermon from St. Matthew, second chapter, second verse: "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we are come to worship Him." The discourse held that Jesus is the King of the Jews; He was from everlasting. The people elected God their King by vote, in mass-meeting. (Exodus, nineteenth chapter, from third to ninth verses.) The preacher illustrated his subject with numerous Scriptural quotations, and closed with a cogent, practical application, urging his hearers to appreciate the glorious privileges of the Christian life, and rejoice in the merry sentiments of the day by renewed devotion to the Babe of Bethlehem, the Wise Counselor, Wonderful Prince of Peace. Let us all join in the sentiment of the carol, and say:

"Ring out the bells for Christmas,
The happy, happy day,
Ring out the bells for Christmas,
The happy, happy day."

(Here he paused, and instantly the chimes in the tower rang out the notes of the carol. The congregation listened, profoundly impressed.)

The administration of the Communion to a large number of persons followed. The services concluded with the recessional hymn, "Hark, the herald angels sing." The effect of the orchestra, the two organs and the chorus of voices was most sublime. The thunderous diapasons, the rolling drums, the brazen trumpets, the reeds and violins, swelled out a volume of melody that made the echoes tremble. Several of the solos were exquisitely rendered. The font, the altar, the lectern and desks were adorned with elegant flowers.

St. Alban's.

The services for the day at St. Alban's commenced at midnight on Saturday, when high mass was celebrated. At 2½ o'clock in the morning matins were performed, and at 10½ the regular morning services commenced. They were quite brief, consisting merely of the reading of the Commandments, the Collect, Epistle and Gospel for the day, the chanting antiphonally of the appropriate Psalms and the delivery of a sermon by Rev. Father NOYES, from the words "Glory to God in the Highest." He considered his subject under three heads. "The glory of God; God's glory our benefit, and His glory consisting in humility." After a vivid description of the glory of God, he said that nearly all our churches now recognized the anniversary of the birth of Christ as a day which should be kept holy; but they did not sufficiently recognize the fact of Christ's continued incarnation. Unfortunately for us our ideas were too much materialistic. We were content to let the universe revolve about us, rather than to let our ideas revolve around the universe. God's glory, he showed, was our benefit, and extraordinary as it might seem, his glory consisted in humility. He did not come as princes of the earth come, surrounded with pomp and the symbols of power. He was, we are told, "a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief." From the first moment of his appearance on earth to the last, he showed naught but meekness and humility. The preacher concluded with a fervent appeal to his hearers to imitate the virtues of Christ as far as in them lay.

After the sermon, which was very brief, mass was celebrated by Rev. Mr. MORRELL, and about fifty persons then advanced to the chancel and partook of the Communion. At 4 P. M. vespers were sung, and at the evening at 8 compline were performed, and a short sermon delivered.

The church was decorated with evergreens, and several vases of flowers were placed on the altar, which was resplendent with plate and brilliantly lighted by wax tapers. The congregation at the morning service was a large and attentive one.

Free Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

The services at the Free Church of St. Mary the Virgin, in West Forty-fifth-street, between Seventh and Eighth avenues, were of more than usual interest yesterday. At 7 A. M. the Holy Communion was administered; at 10 A. M. was the morning prayer; 10½ A. M. the Litany: at 11 A. M. the Communion service was again performed, and then a brief sermon was delivered by Rev. BENJAMIN MINES. At 4 P. M. there was the evening prayer service, and at 7½ P. M. a sermon. The morning's sermon was appropriately based upon these words, recorded by the Evangelist: "Peace on earth and good will to men." In the course of his sermon, the speaker said there had recently arisen a discussion among linguists and lexicographers as to the proper translation of the words. Some had contended that the true meaning of the sentence is, "To men of good will on earth, peace and glory to God in the highest." However that might be, he said we had enough to be thankful for—enough to rejoice over in the great plan of redemption for fellow man. In speaking of the Blessed Virgin, he said that there was more confided to her than she had cared to tell. She was the most blessed, the most favored of all women. As such she was to be venerated, not worshipped, and through her the mercies and favors of God were to be secured. God had so loved this world that he gave His only begotten Son to be crucified for sinners. In thinking of Christ, however, we must not forget the Virgin Mary.

The music in this church is pronounced, by competent judges, to be excellent. Wax tapers were burned upon the altar, and a brazen crucifix occupied a prominent place in the church. The edifice is new and not yet completed. About half a dozen wealthy up-town gentlemen have furnished the funds for its erection.

The Heavenly Rest.

The enlargement of the "Church of the Heavenly Rest," on Fifth-avenue, near Forty-fifth-street, was thrown open for the first service, yesterday. This gem of art, with its exquisite architectural proportions, elaborate ornamentation, and beautiful oil-paintings, has been fully described in the TIMES. Its evergreen and floral decorations are simple, but chaste and lovely in design, well according to the rich and rare grace of the building itself. A large congregation was in attendance. Rev. Dr. CONRAD discoursed upon "the humanity of Christ," taking his text from the second chapter of Hebrews, seventeenth verse, "In all things it behooved Him to be made like His brethren." The object of the incarnation was to exhibit to the world a glorified humanity, to manifest a perfect example, to make an atonement. The musical portion of the services were exceedingly fine. There are two choirs, of men and boys, with a female alto and soprano. The organ has just been finished, and is ably manipulated by Mr. C. S. FISHER.

St. Thomas'.

The services in St. Thomas' Church, on Fifth-avenue, were most grand and impressive. The edifice—perhaps the most magnificent and perfect in the country—was elaborately festooned with evergreens. The effect of the chancel ornamention was most beautiful. The pulpit, lectern, altar and choir fronts were very tastefully garlanded. On either side was an elevated "banner of the cross," one of orange, the other of blue silk, triangularly shaped, with a crimson Latin cross in the centre. Against the semicircular chancel-wall several beautiful trees were placed, as naturally as though they had taken root, reminding one of "the cedars of Lebanon." The arrangement of all the decorations was surpassingly fine. Here, by far, were the most affecting mementoes of the day. Several splendid stained-glass memorial windows were wreathed with rare and fragrant flowers, placed there by the affectionate hands of relatives. The sunrise services were held at 7½ o'clock. The communion service was at 11 A. M. Rev. Dr. MORGAN preached upon "The Incarnation," second chapter of Hebrews and sixteenth verse: "For verily He took not on Him the nature of angels; but He took on Him the seed of Abraham." The speaker gave a glowing and powerful description of the Savior's deity and humanity, with a practical conclusion upon the inspirations of the Nativity Festival. The choral and instrumental parts of the service were rendered with indescribable effect under the direction of Mr. GEO. W. WARREN. The Sunday-school festival, at 4 P. M., was a joyous occasion. Addresses were made by Rev. Drs. MORGAN, MUHLENBERG and WYATT.

St. George's.

The vast interior of St. George's Church, Stuyvesant-square, was heavily festooned with laurel, pine and cypress wreaths. The pulpit and desk were neatly trimmed with "princess feather," and two tall cedars loomed up on either side of the chancel. Rev. Dr. TYNG preached from the Song of Solomon, second chapter and third verse: "I sat down under His shadow with great delight." The sermon was a finely wrought exposition of the doctrine of the incarnation and atonement. Mr. WM. WILLIAMS rendered the musical services with excellent effect.

Zion.

Zion Church is transformed into a floral and evergreen bower. Festoons cap the arches, glistening pearl panels with laurel borders cover the pillars, scores of hanging vines and flowers depend from the Gothic rafters, "everlasting flower" sentences are disposed about, and a flaming gas-jet cross floods the font and the floral pyramid on it with glorious light. Right Rev. BISHOP SOUTHGATE preached to a very large congregation. His text was St. Luke, second chapter, eleventh verse: "Unto you is born a Savior." The theme was a defense of the domestic and social festivities of Christmas, as emblemizing a religion which is peace and good-will to men.

The Incarnation.

Among the most elegantly decked is the Church of the Incarnation on Madison-avenue. Bright green vines are hung in graceful festoons around the chancel sides, and laurel and cypress wreaths centre in a canopy over the chancel. Upon the altar are a cross and a crown made of red and white camellias, lilies and roses. The whole effect is exquisite, and in perfect harmony with the splendor of the edifice. Rev. Dr. MONTGOMERY delivered an eloquent sermon upon "The Desire of all Nations"—Haggai, second chapter and seventh verse. Large congregations were present. The music, under the charge of Gen. DODGE, was exquisitely rendered.

Other Episcopal Churches.

Holy Trinity, Calvary, St. Mark's, St. Luke's, St. Matthias', Trinity Chapel, St. Paul's, St. John's, the Holy Light, and other churches, were splendidly decorated with evergreens and flowers. Sermons were preached in each of them. The Nativity was the theme of the discourses and the inspiration of the music. Altogether this anniversary is by far the most memorable that has yet been observed in our Episcopal churches.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

Imposing Ceremonials and Magnificent Music.

The services in the principal Catholic churches yesterday were of the most solemn and imposing character, and from the early morning (before daylight in fact) crowds of pious people might have been seen wending their way to their various places of worship to do honor to the great festival of the Nativity. In all the churches there was mass before daybreak; in most of them at 5 o'clock. Some congregations, however, were at worship as early as 4 o'clock, and in the chapels of the Catholic institutions such as convents, colleges, &c., there was midnight mass, to which admission was to be obtained only by special invitation. In St. Stephen's, there was solemn high mass at 5 A. M. and another at 10½ o'clock A. M. The musical selection for the occasion was MOZART'S grand Twelfth Mass. In St. Francis Xavier's, the Church of the Jesuit Fathers, in West Sixteenth-street, there was a succession of low masses, beginning at 4½ A. M., and at 10½ A. M. a solemn high mass. The music was under the direction of Prof. WM. BERGE, and was of the most artistic character. The mass sung was one of the Professor's own compositions, and was finely rendered. The soloists were: Miss MARY WERNEKE, soprano; Miss TERESA WERNEKE, contralto; Signor ALFONSO BRUNI, tenor; Signor BACCELI, basso. There was also a full chorus, and the instrumentation was furnished by an orchestra, in addition to the organ. In St. Peter's, Barclay-street—the old mother church of New-York, from which has sprung such a numerous progeny—there was also solemn high mass at 10½ A. M., the music being under the direction of Prof. PACHER, the organist. At St. Ann's, St. James', Transfiguration and St. Joseph's, and all the other churches, services were gotten up in a style of grandeur fully in consonance with the deep veneration which Catholics every where pay to the great festival of the Birth of Our Lord.

The Cathedral.

The great centre of attraction, however, was the Cathedral, corner Mott and Prince streets. The TIMES had previously announced that Most Rev. Archbishop MCCLOSKEY would here officiate in person, and that the mass of the day, beginning at 10½ A. M., would be a solemn Pontifical one. This announcement was sufficient to attract an immense congregation, a large proportion of which was made up of non-Catholics. At 5 o'clock in the morning, however, there was a solemn high mass, with deacon and subdeacon assisting, to which was attended by so large a congregation that the spacious church was not able to hold them all; and notwithstanding the sharp, biting air of the early morning, numbers were compelled to kneel on the door-steps of the sacred edifice. At this mass Very Rev. Dr. STARRS, Vicar-General of the Archdiocese, was the celebrant. The number of communicants at this mass was enormous—the altar rail being filled time after time with the faithful, who specially commemorated the day by receiving the Blessed Eucharist. The music at this celebration was excellent. But the great feature of the day here was the Pontifical mass at 10½ A. M. The Church, on this occasion, was filled to repletion, even the aisles containing numbers of people, who, unable to get seats, were content to stand during the whole two hours and a half of the service. At 10½ the procession of ecclesiastics and acolytes emerged from the vestry, the organ, meanwhile, under the manipulation of Prof. SCHMITZ, sending forth the strains of an exquisite voluntary. In front was the master of ceremonies, and immediately behind him an acolyte bearing the processional cross; following which came a long file of acolytes, habited in red cassocks and white surplices; behind these came others in black cassocks and white surplices; then the incense-bearer, the mitre-bearer, and the crozier-bearer; then the subdeacon, deacon, and assistant priest, and lastly, his Grace the Archbishop, vested in full canonicals, with miter and crozier, followed by an acolyte bearing the long train of his purple cassock. Having taken his place at the foot of the altar, with the deacon and subdeacon on the right and left respectively, the Archbishop began the "Introibo" and proceeded with the mass. The organ and full choir had meanwhile sent forth the solemn strains of the "Kyrie" in MANDANCINI'S Mass in G, one of the grandest of sacred compositions, and especially written for the Christmas festivity. Having incensed the altar, the Archbishop went to his throne on the gospel side where he read the collects, and afterward intoned the "Gloria in Excelsis," which was immediately taken up by the full choir, and the glorious old hymn of the angelic host was soon rolling down the "long-drawn aisles" and filling the grand minster in every part. The mass was then continued to the chanting of the first gospel by the deacon, after which the choir sang the "Veni Creator Spiritus;" and Very Rev. Dr. STARRS ascended the pulpit and preached a most instructive sermon on the lessons to be drawn from the great mystery of the Nativity. His discourse was based on the appearance of the angels to the shepherds, announcing the birth of our Redeemer, as recorded in St. Luke, chapter 2, verses 1 to 15. After the sermon the mass was proceeded with to its close, strictly in accordance with the Roman ritual. At the offertory was sung the "Pastores Erant Vigilantes," a terzetto, by LAMBILOTTE, Mme. CHOME sustaining the soprano part; and after the elevation of the Host, Mme. WERNER sang the "O Salutaris Hostia." At the close of the mass the Archbishop gave all present the Papal benediction, and the solemn ceremonies were ended by the choir singing the "Adeste Fideles"—the hymn which the Church specially sets apart for this day. The officiating clergy at this grand service were: Celebrant, Most Rev. Archbishop MCCLOSKEY; Assistant Priest, Very Rev. Dr. STARRS, V. G.; Deacon, Rev. Dr. MCSWEENEY; Subdeacon, Rev. Father MCGEAN; Master of Ceremonies, Rev. FRANCIS MCNIERNEY, Secretary to the Archbishop. The soloists of the mass were: Soprano, Mme. CHOME; contralto, Mme. WERNER; tenors, HENRI SCHMITZ and Herr GROSCHEL; basso, A. SOHST. In the evening at 4 o'clock there was solemn vesper service.

The Church of St. Vincent Ferrer.

At the Church of the Dominicans, corner of Lexington-avenue and Sixty-sixth-street, the services were especially grand and imposing. In the morning, at 5 o'clock, the first service, a solemn high mass, was celebrated by Father LILLY, with Father BYRNE as deacon and Very Rev. Father DUNN as subdeacon. The sermon was preached by Father BYRNE. This was followed by services every hour until 10½ o'clock, when another solemn high mass was celebrated by Rev. Father MCGOVERN, with Father LILLY as deacon and Father DUNN as subdeacon. The music in the morning was the "Missa Pro Pace," rendered by Miss FISSETT, soprano; Miss TRACY, alto; Mr. FRANTZ, tenor; Mr. PHILIP SULLIVAN, basso, conducted by the organist, Mr. HAASCHELL. The last mass was "Generalis." At 7½ MILLARD'S Vespers were sung by the same choir, intoned by Rev. Father LILLY. Miss FISSETT had ample opportunity for displaying her really fine voice, which possesses both richness and compass of a very high order. She is a French lady, has been connected with this church about two months, and is considered, by those who have heard her, as a very fine soprano.

OTHER CHURCHES.

Discourses Appropriate to the Occasion by Clergymen of Various Denominations.

After the usual Sunday services in churches of other denominations besides the Episcopal and Catholic, sermons appropriate to the occasion were preached yesterday. Sketches of some of the more interesting of these are given below.

"The Joy-Producing Power of Christianity"—Discourse by Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

Apart from a wreath of evergreens wound tastefully round the rostrum and a long branch of fir fixed behind the speaker and in front of the organ, there was nothing in the appearance of Plymouth Church yesterday morning commemorative of the great Christian festival. There was, however, the usual multitude of bright and intelligent faces. Mr. BEECHER himself appeared to be in unusually fine spirits. The care-worn look that has within the last few years settled upon his countenance was entirely gone, and he appeared in every respect a thorough model of healthy, vigorous Christianity. Even his opening prayer appeared to contain more than usual of that magical mixture of hope, eloquence and high devotion which has so long distinguished the character of Mr. BEECHER. Nothing in the shape of humanity escaped his notice and his prayer, from the "little prattling child, full of life and innocence," to the most hardened and reckless of reprobates in the prisons of the country. Before opening his discourse he read a number of notices of meetings, &c., and called especial attention to the announcement from the managers of the Plymouth Bethel that they would give a dinner today to the little folks under their charge, and added, in a genial way, that if any of his congregation, in their generosity of spirit, had any cake which they thought the children would enjoy the eating of more than they would themselves, he hoped they would send it in, assured that it would be gratefully received and thoroughly used. He also said a good word in behalf of an entertainment to be given on Wednesday evening, in the church, by the sons of a Persian missionary, explanatory and illustrative of the habits of the people and condition of affairs in that country and in Palestine.

The choir sang an anthem composed specially for the occasion by the organist, Mr. ZUNDEL.

Mr. BEECHER chose for his text the tenth and eleventh verses of the second chapter of St. Luke:

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the City of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

And said, This is the one day of all the year consecrated purely to joy. We care not what the ecclesiastical origin of Christmas Day was, nor what notions individuals may have held in other times concerning it; now it is a day for the celebration of joy. There are many days celebrated among different nations to commemorate important events in their history, days of thanksgiving to God in which expression is given to national gratitude for great deliverances or general blessings received, but in this day people of all languages who have heard the name of Christ, unite in manifestations of joy. That name is not yet known to all the population of the globe, but the time shall come when all people knowing it, shall join together to celebrate this one culminating day of joy. Whatever men believe respecting Christ, they agree that his advent is to be hailed with joy. Whether he be looked upon as angelic, very God, or only eminent man, his coming is universally admitted to have been a fact of supreme importance in the history of the world. The angels proclaimed joy to the shepherds and declared that it should be a joy to all people; the priest predicted joy to the wondering parents, and Jesus calls himself the man predicted to right the wrong, and to bring light, liberty and peace to the world. This day, therefore, celebrates the era of joy. One day there is in the 365 set apart not only for joy, but to remind the world that the true religion bears joy as its ripest fruit. Continuous joy in any faculty indicates the highest development of health in that faculty; and continuous joy in every part of a man will be the sign of perfection when it shall take place. For, although some are accustomed to regard pleasure as no sign of goodness, yet in a higher analysis it will be found that the power of continuous joy in any soul is an evidence of its health. It is, therefore, the final test of excellence. The capacity to joyfulness is the ultimate, though not the immediate, end of being. Joy is the fruit of long education, an education in which there is much incidental suffering; but all suffering is but the chisel's edge shaping the innocuous block to the forms of beauty and proportions of purpose. What is Christianity—this joy-producing power? Historically and narrowly considered, Christianity is the system of truth, made up by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. That, however, merely tells where the name came from, and what were the instruments by which it was formed. Christianity is that system of things designed by God to develop to their highest degree all the powers of manhood. It was inaugurated by Christ. He was the supreme teacher in this great system, but all of Christianity was not taught by Christ. That this is so, Christ himself testifies. It is also apparent that there was much truth in the mind of Jesus that was not spoken. Christianity is not to be found in its doctrines and formulas, it is to be studied in the results which these work out. Just as soon as there is any truth found out which, when applied to man will tend to lift him higher in the scale of existence, it falls naturally in and becomes part of Christianity, for it is in itself the final sum of all things that tend to produce perfect manhood. Christianity was designed by Christ, but it was nowhere even intimated by him that the whole of Christianity was made known at the time. The whole creation is God's, and, therefore, Christ's. The word was made by Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made, and all things created were made to work out the development of man through the medium of Christianity. Men go back to the Apostles, as though all things were pure in proportion as they were old; but you might as well go back to acorns for wood to build ships. Christianity was never so imperfect as when Christ left it; it was never so narrow as when the Apostles handled it. The glory of Christianity is not in its forms and stationary features, but in its blossom and fruit. And when a thousand years shall have rolled away, and men have thought out more fully the problems of life, when new philosophies shall have arisen, and when by controversy in the churches the wheat shall be winnowed from the chaff, when probing and experiment shall have brought round the glorious reign of truth, whatsoever shall be educed that is truth will belong to Christianity. At this point Mr. BEECHER turned to answer a few of the objections commonly raised to Christianity, on the ground that while it claims to be a joy and peace producing religion, it has in its time done more than all other religions put together to deluge the earth with blood, and set the various nations of men at variance, thereby producing grief and suffering. The command of Christ to those who desired to follow him, "Take up thy cross," is also cited by these objectors. To this he replied by saying that he did not claim for Christianity the power of producing joy instantly, but that it will work out in men such development of faculty as shall make it possible for them afterward to enjoy in a higher degree than they could otherwise have done. There is, he added, no aimless suffering. It is suffering which changes disobedience into obedience, which discharges the dross and brings out pure gold. That is the Divine idea of punishment. The case is illustrated by a woman who says, "I shall have cleanliness in this house," and straightway commences to cover the floor with soap and water, and if you want to cross it you have got to do some careful wading, but at last out of all turmoil comes the cleaned and dried scrubbed floor. There is no doubt at all that intelligence is more pleasing than ignorance, but yet numbers of aching heads and hours of weary study are in that pleasure. The process of being kicked into wisdom from blockheadism is not always a pleasant one. No; it is rather stern. The physician's end is health and enjoyment, but yet there are some noxious doses to be given before that is brought about. Pain is God's midwife. Every good thing in this world is born by labor throes. Pain and suffering, if they do not work out good results, fail, because they have been misused. I believe that through God's universal realm pain is the minister of mercy. The mere fact that Christianity has already produced much misery and sorrow is no argument against the position that it is ultimately to produce joy. The Cross of Christianity means rising to a higher life; it is always placed upon the animal, and out of that action, from the condition of things, must necessarily come final happiness. There have been many religions that have made men more joyful in this life than Christianity has done. With the Greeks this was notably the case. But all that that religion did for men was to amuse them, and leave them finally no further advanced than in the beginning; but Christianity takes men and says: "Here you are capable of higher things than this." Manhood is to be developed by discipline, so, at last, there is an immeasurable advance made, and the capacity for joy greatly increased over what it was at the earlier stages. It is a great source of pleasure to me to believe as I do, that the future of Christianity is to be far brighter than the past. Do you remember that Christmas Day is the first day in the year in which the day is lengthened? The hand of time on this day cuts one lock from the brow of darkness and hangs it upon the forehead of day. The sun will not go back now; it has set its face toward Summer, and, though there are going to be great storms in January, and vast shrouds of snow will descend to cover the earth, yet we know that the sun has started back upon his bright career, and that Summer, radiant and full of flowers, will be brought to us in his bosom. This is the type of Christianity. A cloud may, for a time, be hidden in storms and darkness; light will at last break, and day be born.

"Christ and Christianity"—Discourse by Rev. Dr. Hepworth at the Church of the Messiah.

Rev. Dr. HEPWORTH delivered a discourse yesterday morning, on "Christ and Christianity," from the sixteenth chapter of Matthew, and thirteenth verse: "Whom do men say that I, the son of man, am?" The following is an abstract of the discourse:

The question which Christ put to His disciples has been propounded by many since that time. It was difficult for the disciples to understand that they were learning of some one who was superior to man. The Pharisees attempted to stone Him at one time because He claimed to be equal with God. To-day we have come to commemorate that never-to-be comprehended period when the Father himself revealed His character to us whom we call the son of God, and also the son of man. To-day we commemorate the event whose results extend far into the future. The principles of Christianity can never be destroyed, and by them error and wrong and oppression shall be swept from the earth. You and I are part of that great system, and we enjoy its benefits. Because of the sermon on the mount and His ascension our lives are made so happy that no matter what happens we can see through the gloom and say, "Our Father which art in heaven." Since this is one of a course of sermons delivered to erring people I desire to speak of some of the ways of looking upon Christ of Nazareth. The question for you to-day is, Whom is the Son of Man? What help does he give you, and does he give you strength? These are pertinent questions at this time when every Church is celebrating the birth of Christ. We should not only feel that God is with us but that He remains with us. The first standpoint is the naturalistic, that which cannot be explained by known law, but which contradicts nothing that can be understood. There are a class of thinkers who entertain varied views of the future. These men claim that God never interferes with the law and order which He has laid down from the beginning; also that all the wondrous stories of Christ are myths and not to be credited. While relying upon the words of the Master they only believe which are susceptible of proof. The Bible is to them a new philosophy, forgetful of the fact that he who doubts one portion must deny the whole. On the other side, we note the stand-point called supernaturalism, believing the Bible to be a revelation in its profoundest sense, and not a new philosophy; that Christ was the embodiment of God himself; that he belongs on the throne and wears the purple, because God has put it on his shoulders and will wear it until the millennium. I use the word revelation in its fullest sense. God spake to men and revealed to them the relation between the finite and the infinite. This is the foundation of my religion. I assert that the fact of a revelation accords with what we know of God, of ourselves and of history. Every man loves in the supernatural. It may degenerate into superstition, but the fact is that every man and woman believes in the supernatural, and cannot help it; so that it is against man's nature to say that God did not make himself known to man. In history we find that God has interfered. His own finger and heart are to be found in the education of human powers, which are growing up from the savage of the past to the civilized Christian of the present age. God interposes every day, and does a great many things for us that we would not have if He did not. God cares for us as a mother cares for her child. God is everywhere present, even now. If you are a man of science, you find that there are evidences in nature of the existence of God. Unless you are a Darwinian, you must believe in the upward development of nature—races dying out and giving way to new ones. We find evidences of it in the sandstone and everywhere. God's method with man is analogous to his method with nature. God raises up teachers to lift us up from the lower to the higher. In the story of the Hebrew race we find many things which are scarcely possible, but we cannot doubt that God has been speak to man. It seems to me that we, as a religious body, have been endeavoring to account for this Trinity without accounting for Christ. We had better at once say that Christ is God, and a supernatural being. Unless we do this we have not a rock on which to stand; but admitting this fact, we have a foundation for religion. Think of the Bible, and the effect of its consecrated words in ages past. Think of it as the foundation of human character, denouncing sin, and declaring the will of God. It has also comforted millions in past generations, and comforts us still. If the Word of God has not authority it ought to have, for it is just what we want, and gives us comfort such as nothing but inspired words can do. This revelation has shown no sign of decay; it has lasted for 1,800 years, and will last for 1,800 years longer. Certainly this is more than nature—more than supernatural. Look back through the dim vista of ages, and we view the solemn scene of the birth of Christ. The miracle was that of God, and was believed by the wise men of the East. That child was the redemption of the whole world. He was the new teacher who was to give man a new religion. When He grew to manhood, He went to the shores of Galilee, and found two men mending their nets, whom He bade follow Him, and they obeyed, believing Him. So He gathered His disciples. Is not this wonderful? Is it not miraculous? Thus was the new system of religion sown, and thus in faith it has since prospered. Man has tried to destroy it, but has failed; Catholics adopted the system, but incorporated Pagan rites. Despite the action of creeds, the religion of Christ lives today as though it had never been assailed. It is the same today that it was when it was given to the world, and this because Christ was the Son of God. In memory of Him we trim our churches on this day; and because we believe in Him, we say, in his very words, "Our Father which art in heaven."

The Lord's Prayer was then chanted by the choir, and Mr. HEPWORTH announced that the Christmas festival would be held on the evening of the 29th in the church, and all children of the Sunday-school were invited to be present. The church was tastefully decorated with evergreens, and in front of the pulpit was a beautiful cross of flowers and evergreens.

"The Christmas Song of Humanity"—Discourse by Rev. O. B. Frothingham.

Rev. O. B. FROTHINGHAM discoursed, yesterday morning, at Lyric Hall, on "The Christmas Song of Humanity," before an unusually large congregation. The reverend gentleman remarked that the task of commemorating the birth of Christ and traversing back in spirit to the circumstances which surrounded it, was a work of the memory and of the imagination. Religions grew so very old, their battles were so terrific, the changes necessitated by successive revolutions were so great, that it required the full exercise of the fancy to form an adequate idea of the largeness of Providence in bequeathing "peace and good will to men" by the birth of the Savior. What a contrast between the religion of Christ and that of the present day! After two thousand years of strife it has become old, dying and haggard; none sing 'praise to God in the spirit of the early church, but praise to PIO NONO in the highest. Christmas brings with it nothing to remind us of the great peace announced by angels, but its return is accompanied by almost universal war waged by Christian men against their corelligionists. No shepherds, and kings, and sages embrace and greet it; the world has grown dark; it is not the religion of the great thinkers and minds of the age; it has grown rich and takes refuge in great cathedrals, whence it sends up psalms to heaven. But where is the spirit that should animate it? Its Christmas song is a monotonous strain, and it forgets that the true shepherds and wise men of the East are laying their gifts at the feet of the little child that means peace and life, and that all the world over His advent is hailed with joy. For his part, he rejoiced in the greatness and liberality of Providence that, unlike Christendom, did not claim the monopoly of the true and only Messiah. It claimed the monopoly of faith, truth, immortality, the existence of God, and the possession of His spirit. He denied that these were exclusively attributes of the religion of today, and asserted that a knowledge of history and an acquaintance with other nations afforded convincing evidence that long before the birth of Christ God was adored with as much fervent devotion as in these latter days. Was the claim just when 170,000,000 Buddhists and the numerous followers of CONFUCIUS claimed the same distinction for their new deities? No. We should listen to the universal song of praise. We must see all the forms of Divine faith and respect and glory in its followers, and this Christmas song would not continue to be a delusion. The universal song of humanity celebrated the spiritual and not a Christian man. With one voice all nations bear witness to Him that we are something more than finely organized dust. The Christmas song is this song of humanity. We all have the same heart, the same soul, the same needs, the same urgencies; therefore our spiritual interests are identical. Then let there be no narrowness, no bigotry, no limits to our feelings of joy, but let us adore God in truth and sincerity of heart and we shall best fulfill His designs in our creation.

"The Personal Advent of Christ"—Discourse by Rev. Dr. Chapin.

Yesterday morning, Dr. CHAPIN's church, on Fifth-avenue, was crowded by a fashionable audience, anxious to hear the reverend Doctor's Christmas sermon. The psalm for the day having been chanted, the 211th hymn, "Let your mingling voices rise," having been sung, and a very impressive prayer offered up, the reverend Doctor

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A COMPARATIVE GRAMMAR OF THE TEUTONIC LANGUAGES. Being at the same time a Historical Grammar of the English Language; and comprising Gothic, Anglo-Saxon, Early English, Modern English, Icelandic, (Old Norse,) Danish, Swedish, Old High German, Middle High German, Modern German, Old Saxon, Old Frisian, Dutch. By JAMES HELFENSTEIN, Ph. D. London: MACMILLAN & Co.

A few weeks since, in reviewing Prof. MARCH'S *Anglo-Saxon Grammar*, we took occasion to speak of the importance of the study of Comparative Grammar, not only to the philologist, but to the student of history. The almost simultaneous publication of this work of Dr. HELFENSTEIN is a gratifying evidence of the increasing appreciation of this subject. The two works, although having many points in common, have many differences in scope and purpose. Prof. MARCH'S special object was to furnish a text-book for the study of the Anglo-Saxon language, all the rest being auxiliary to this. Dr. HELFENSTEIN'S object is to point out the relations between the whole class of languages which we denominated Japetan, including mainly the Teutonic branches, with constant reference, however, to the Greek and Latin, and the relations of all to the Sanskrit, and to the original speech from which all these are offshoots.

The importance of this branch of study to the student of history and ethnology, arises from the fact that the affinities of language is the best test of national affinity. As thought is the distinguishing function of man, so language is his most permanent possession. Language is a living fact, while customs, habits, religions and Governments, are in constant flux and flow; and the traditional histories of the migrations of races are always doubtful, and not unfrequently wholly mythical and fanciful. We must, however, in the outset, guard carefully against one great source of error. A people while preserving its national identity, sometimes abandons its own language and adopts another. Thus of the pure Celts in Ireland, or the Cymri in Wales, very few now speak any other language than the English; and the Goths of Spain, the Gauls of France, and the Lusitanians of Portugal, are all absurdly styled "Latin races," merely because they adopted and subsequently modified the language of their Roman conquerors.

A single example will illustrate the distinction between grammar, as the word is ordinarily used, which we will denominate descriptive grammar, and comparative, or, as we will call it, scientific grammar. We will take the word "foot." When the descriptive grammarian has told us that it is a "common noun, neuter gender, singular number," making its plural "feet," his work is done. The scientific grammarian will inquire why its plural should be "feet," and not *foots*, just as "boot" has *boots*, and "root" *roots*. He will not be satisfied to say that the word is "irregular," for he believes that there is nothing irregular in nature, but everything is governed by law; and he undertakes to find out the law in this particular case. He soon discovers that the Anglo-Saxons said *fút*, *fét*, just as we do, *ú* and *é* being merely modes of writing down the sounds which we express by *oo* and *ee*.) So this apparent irregularity is older than the Anglo-Saxon dialect. He tries the Gothic, and finds the Goths said "fôtus;" and that by the regular law of that language the plural was *fôtius*. Then he goes to the Old Saxon, and finds that they regularly dropped the terminating letter *s*, and so the plural was *fôti*. He is yet as far as ever from "feet;" but he finds another Saxon law by which the terminal *i*, when following an *o*, always makes a mutation in its sound, (which the Germans call "Umlant,") and *ô* by this law becomes *é*; and so the Saxon plural is *fêti*. The Anglo-Saxons regularly dropped the plural ending *i*, and so they had *fêt*, our *feet*. But why does not "root" undergo the same change? Simply because it has not come to us through the same channel. But the scientific grammarian has not got through with "foot." The Latins expressed the same thing by *pes*, apparently a quite different word; but when he learns that *pes* was originally *ped* (as shown by the *d* existing in the oblique cases *pedis*, &c.,) he perceives that although there is not a single letter in common between them, yet *foot* and *ped* are really somehow the same word. He goes to work to trace the change to its origin. He finds that the word in Sanskrit is *pada*, derived from *pad*, "to go;" now taking the word as it appears in different languages: Sanskrit *pad*, Greek *pod*, Latin *ped*, English *foot*, German *fuss*, he finds that GRIMM'S law of mutations, which is of unvarying application, explains all these changes, and that by what DARWIN would style "natural selection," the various consonants and vowels arrange themselves in all these forms. All is done by law.

We have taken the simplest case which occurs to us, in order to illustrate the principle. To develop it in more complex cases would far exceed our limits. The instance of the pronouns, as fully developed by Dr. HELFENSTEIN, is especially worthy of study. Why, for example, the personal pronoun, third person, singular, should be: Anglo-Saxon, *hi*, English, *he*, Gothic, *is*, Norse, *hann*, seems at first inexplicable. But when we go back to the Sanskrit, and find that in the parent speech there was originally more than one pronoun of this class, and that some languages have selected the whole or parts of one, and others those of another, the whole mystery is explained.

We are fully prepared to indorse the words of Dr. HELFENSTEIN: "It is high time that the designation 'irregular' should disappear from the terminology of grammarians. There is nothing irregular in the so-called irregular verbs, or in language generally. Every phenomenon is founded upon a law; it is not the product of haphazard, or of an arbitrary will. Where the law has not yet been discovered, it remains the noblest task of linguists to strive after its discovery and elucidation. What as yet evades explanation may be left standing over as a fact which is sure to find some day sufficient illustration from some other corrollary facts grouped around." We may, with the change of a single word apply to language, the noble words, spoken in respect to history, by JOHN WILLIAM DRAPER: "It is of law that I am to speak. In a world composed of vanishing forms, I am to vindicate the imperishability, the majesty of law, and to show how man proceeds in his social march in obedience to it. I am to lead my readers from the outward phantasmagorial illusions which surround us to something which lies in silence and strength behind. I am to draw his thoughts from the tangible to the universal; from the changeable to the invariable; from the transitory to the eternal; from the expedients and volitions so largely amusing the life of man to the predestined and resistless issuing from the fiat of God."

From this point of view—and it is the only adequate one, and one which is fast coming to be appreciated as such—Philology, in its broad sense is seen to be no mere idle gerund-grinding, or useless groping among dry roots; but a science worthy to take rank beside those other great branches which go to make up the sum of human knowledge. Undoubtedly only few of those who have devoted themselves to this science have any even approximate idea of its grandeur. They are content to be mere quarrymen in the building of the great temple which is slowly but surely rising. Perhaps it is well that it should be so. The hewers of stone and the drawers of water are as indispensable as the architect and the sculptor. Dr. HELFENSTEIN has shown himself everywhere a most patient and laborious quarryman; but we find also,—as for example, in the passage we have quoted,—proof that he is more than this; and we cordially echo his closing words: "I take leave of my work, which for six years has been my constant companion in trials and sorrows; and I dare to hope that it may not be altogether rejected by those for whom it is intended."

TALKS ABOUT PEOPLE'S STOMACHS. By DIO LEWIS, A. M., M. D. Boston: FIELDS, OSGOOD & CO.

Dr. LEWIS is a dyspeptic by his own confession, and in this volume he commends to healthy stomachs the rules which he has found applicable to his own. The "Talks" are a collection of rambling paragraphs upon many subjects and from many sources; they form, indeed, a common-place-book of the author's reflections during the past few years. "Dr. Abernethy's Practice," "Old Sister Smith," "Galen," "The Teeth," "Indurations, Abscesses and Sores," "Lead Pipes," "Colds," "Tobacco and the Stomach"—these are samples taken at random from the long list of themes given in the table of contents. The author informs us "that the student will not find much in this work that is original,"—an admission which is well borne out by the character of the book. One would suppose it to have been written by any one else than an educated physician. The whole tendency of the volume is to underestimate the value of generous diet, and to encourage the theories of vegetarians, "Grahamites," and self-made thinkers in general. It contains the traces of a morbid stomach and brain, rather than of any acquaintance with the latest doctrines of physiological science.

It will sufficiently indicate the character of the volume if we mention that the author seriously entertains this question: "Can we take food enough in the evening, at a single meal, to last twenty-four hours?....It certainly would be a capital arrangement if practicable. *It would give the brain and muscle great freedom and advantage during the day*....After a couple of years' trial I will report." (p. 132.) Or again, (p. 116,) "A pound of oatmeal is worth, as nutriment, six pounds of superfine white flour." Dr. LEWIS finds, indeed, that the price of food is in the inverse ratio of its value. "Let me feed a family of ten persons," says he, "and I will give them the highest health and strength upon a diet which will cost, in Boston, not more than $2 for ten persons;" *i. e.*, less than three cents a day will purchase, in New-England, "the highest health and strength" for an adult human being. Statements of this sort recall the splendid vagaries of a great American politician. Dr. LEWIS is the GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN of medicine.

There are gleams of common sense in the book; but it is unfortunate for science that such statements and theories as those we have quoted should proceed from the medical guild. Nor are we at the end. We note with some apprehension the author's announcement that three more volumes from his pen "will quickly follow this little work." In view of such a prospect, we may be allowed to hope that Dr. LEWIS will at once commence his experiment of living upon one meal per day.

PLUTARCH'S MORALS. Translated from the Greek by several hands. Corrected and revised by WILLIAM W. GOODWIN, Ph. D., Professor of Greek Literature in Howard University. With an introduction by RALPH WALDO EMERSON. 5 vols. Boston: LITTLE, BROWN & CO. 1870.

We moderns are not altogether so wise as we think ourselves. In science and its practical applications we have, doubtless, made wonderful strides. In making moral truth the property of the masses, instead of leaving it in the exclusive possession of a knot of philosophers, we have, likewise, got very much in advance of the ancients. But in the mere statement and exposition of ethical truth, in the application of a unique combination of shrewd common sense and philosophical acumen to the relations of social and individual life, we have absolutely nothing to compare with the moral essays and maxims of some of the greatest Greek and Roman thinkers. In the sphere of moral speculation we are perpetually meeting with the same phenomenon as we find in imaginative literature. The Homers and Shakespeares of practical ethics are like their prototypes in poetry,—commonly found in ages where physical science and all the more artificial forms of life, which its more advanced stages bring along with them, are still very imperfectly developed.

No better illustration of these remarks can be found than in the volumes before us. The translation of the *Moralia*—the general title under which all the works of PLUTARCH, except the *Lives*, have generally been included—presents us with a number of treatises, whose variety is only equaled by the general aptness of the truths they convey, to the prevailing problems of nineteenth century civilization. Let the reader peruse such a paper as the opening one of the first volume, "On the Training of Children," and let him afterwards reflect how little it would require to be altered to make it appear the highest expression of contemporary wisdom on one of the most vital of social questions. These old Greeks never suffered themselves to be possessed by one idea; they lauded physical culture, but kept it in their educational systems duly subordinated to mental: they knew the value of independence and decision of character, but they never lost sight of the imperative necessity for, as well as the innate fitness of, juvenile subordination and filial reverence. A careful reader of such volumes as those before us may find a great many of our modern *isms* foreshadowed in the maxims of the keen-sighted and reflective Chæronean, and given, too, without a trace of the exaggerated importance which has since been conferred upon them.

A reader of Prof. GOODWIN'S preface will naturally wonder why, amid all the manifold imperfections of this old translation of PLUTARCH'S *Morals*, which he has so patiently and conscientiously revised, he did not attempt to produce one which should be entirely new. After getting fairly into the spirit of the graphic and vigorous old English of the seventeenth century, the reader will cease to wonder at the editor's anxiety to preserve the body of the work as he found it, and to make it merely such a version of the original as both scholars and the public might approve. Perhaps another gain of the use of the old translation is the apology it affords for reproducing the unvarnished phraseology of PLUTARCH in language equally explicit. For, as Mr. EMERSON remarks in his introduction, "The plain-speaking of PLUTARCH, as of the ancient writers generally, coming from the habit of writing for one sex only, has a great gain for brevity, and, in our new tendencies of civilization, may tend to correct a false delicacy." It may be necessary to add another equally just comment by Mr. EMERSON, who says in comparing our author with MONTAIGNE, with whom he has many points of affinity, "though PLUTARCH is as plain-spoken, his moral sentiment is always pure."

The five handsome volumes before us contain some sixty different treatises, the variety of whose subjects may be indicated by the following samples of the titles: "Of Bashfulness," "Concerning Music," "Rules for the Preservation of Health," "The Banquet of the Seven Wise Men," "Conjugal Precepts," "Concerning such whom God is slow to Punish," "Of Love," "Of Eating of Flesh," "Of the Face appearing within the orb of the Moon." The treatment of these extensively varied topics agrees, at least in this, that it is uniformly genial and suggestive. Mr. EMERSON gives a rapid summary of great authors who have evidently studied PLUTARCH, and who were more or less indebted to him. This includes RABELAIS, MONTAIGNE, MONTESQUIEU, ROLLIN, VOLTAIRE and ROUSSEAU, in France, and SHAKESPEARE, BACON, DRYDEN and CUDWORTH in English literature. The late revival in France of a taste for PLUTARCH is also adverted to. The movement is cited as being due to the influence of SAINT-BEUVE, and to have been forwarded by some of the ablest of the writers in the *Revue des deux Mondes*. That these volumes should receive the cordial reception they deserve would be one of the most satisfactory proofs that could be given of a healthy literary taste among our reading public, and could not fail to have a manifest influence in at once fostering and developing it. The work is an evidence of solid enterprise, which will, we trust, meet with due appreciation.

ZELL'S POPULAR ENCYCLOPEDIA. A Universal Dictionary of English Language, Science, Literature and Art. By L. COLANGE, LL.D. In two volumes. Illustrated by over two thousand wood-cuts. Vol. I. Philadelphia: T. ELWOOD ZELL. 1870.

The purpose of this work appears to be that of combining a first-rate dictionary, minus the orthoepy, with a first-rate cyclopedia of literature, science and art. JOHNSON or WEBSTER, amalgamated with BRANDE and HAYDEN, may be taken in a rough way to describe the production; and waiving the consideration whether or not the mixture was desirable at all, it may be said to have been carefully and thoroughly effected. The amount of information in the 1,200 pages before us is certainly stupendous. As a labor of condensation and research, the Encyclopedia has substantial merit. Besides the features we have named, it ought, perhaps, to be credited with those of a Gazetteer. There is a great mass of geographical and statistical data in it, and, judging from a first examination, the best authorities have been consulted to assure accuracy and precision. The engravings, too, are remarkably good, although they are somewhat arbitrarily selected, and the typography of the volume is highly creditable. As each page contains three columns of fine type, and is of the largest dictionary size, the vast amount of matter given can be inferred. The book may be said to bear about the same relation to a many-volumed Encyclopedia like APPLETON'S American, or the several English ones, that Mr. HOLE'S small biographical dictionary does to the more extended works of the class. That it possesses advantages for swift reference is apparently undeniable. On the other hand the volumes are so portly as to be not easily handled. It is but fair to say that a pretty close examination has revealed to us wonderfully few mistakes, typographical or other, and that as a piece of bold and liberal enterprise, *Zell's Encyclopedia* is a work of which any publisher may justly feel proud.

The Methodist Episcopal Church—Statistical Returns for 1870.

From the Christian Advocate.

The official statistical returns made by the several annual Conferences at their sessions held during the current year, have been put in type, and will soon be issued from the Book Concern in a large octavo volume of over 300 pages. From the proof-sheets we compile the interesting summaries which we give below. The figures show a year of noteworthy prosperity. Let us be profoundly grateful to Him whose servants we are, whose benedictions have thus far crowned our labors, and who now calls to renewed consecration and zeal in His work. The general summaries, stated in the briefest form, are as follows:

	1870.	Increase over 1869.
Bishops	8	....
Annual Conferences	72	....
Traveling preachers	9,193	383
Local preachers	11,404	1,064
Total preachers	21,234	2,061
Members in full connection	1,173,699	58,337
Members on probation	194,035	9,809
Total lay members	1,367,134	68,196
Adult baptisms	46,481	5,224
Infant baptisms	50,453	2,944
Total baptisms	116,934	8,278
Number of churches	13,373	1,228
Number of parsonages	4,179	211
Value of church edifices	$52,614,591	$5,381,524
Value of parsonages	$7,293,513	$431,283
Number of Sunday-schools	16,912	518
Sunday-school teachers	189,412	4,816
Sunday-school scholars	1,129,898	41,499
Benevolent collections	$967,862	$9,927

These figures are exclusive of the statistics of our foreign missions in China, Bulgaria and South America, the official returns from which have not yet reached us.

Honesty Depending on a Hair—Novel Trap for a Letter-Carrier.

From the Baltimore Gazette, Dec. 22.

In the United States District Court yesterday, trial was had before a jury of LUDWIG MOSER, formerly letter-carrier in the Baltimore Post-office, on an indictment, under the act of Congress of July, 1864, of having opened a letter which had been intrusted to him in the capacity of letter-carrier. The testimony of Gen. ANDREW W. DENISON, Postmaster, was as to the fact of MOSER being a letter-carrier in the employ of the Department on the 17th of November, the day on which it was alleged the letter had been intrusted to the charge of MOSER. The testimony of G. R. PETHERBRIDGE, special agent of the Post-office Department, and other gentlemen, was substantially the same as when the preliminary examination of the accused was had before United States Commissioner ROGERS, on Monday, the 28th ultimo, the principal points thereof being that complaints were made at the Post-office of the non-delivery of letters containing money to various parties expecting remittances; that an envelope post-marked Lockhaven, Penn., and addressed "Mrs. Lecompte, colored, Josephine-street, near Chatsworth," closed with mucilage, but having a hair from the whiskers of Mr. G. R. PETHERBRIDGE inserted in such a manner that the opening of the envelope would be made apparent by the disappearance of the hair; which envelope had inside a letter, on the outside of which were placed that hair and several notes, one of them an old $5 note of the Merchants' and Mechanics' Bank of Virginia, at Wheeling, was given over to the accused by Mr. MICHAEL S. SHOWACRE, Superintendent of Letter-carriers, for delivery, and that said envelope or letter was by him returned to the box in the office the same evening, but subsequently taken out and not again returned for several days, when it was immediately taken in possession by the officials, who, as they testified, found that the envelope had been opened, the hair of Mr. PETHERBRIDGE missing, the position of the contents changed, and the envelope closed, additional mucilage having been used for the purpose. For the defense, several witnesses testified to the good character of the traverser, &c. The defense counsel offered two prayers to the Court for the instruction of the jury: that as there was no real person to whom the letter had been addressed, Mrs. Lecompte being a fictitious person, and the money in the envelope marked by the hair of Mr. PETHERBRIDGE worthless, the prisoner should be acquitted. These prayers were rejected, and after argument the jury retired, but soon after returned with a verdict of guilty.

The Executive Committee of the Union Reform Party in South Carolina have issued a farewell address to the people of the State, noteworthy for its moderate tone. The address announces the dissolution of the party as an organization under the Convention of June last, appeals to the people to work together for the advancement of the State and the promotion of good feelings between the two races, and advises those recently composing the party to hold themselves ready to act politically as circumstances may require, remembering that the restoration of an impartial and economical Government in their own State is of more vital necessity to them than anything else to be accomplished by political combinations. It is, however, hinted that the whites would do well to aid the conservative Republicans in 1872.

LETTERS FROM EUROPE.

WAR NOTES FROM LONDON.

Recent Operations of the Army of the Loire—Its Heroic Fighting but Final Defeat—The Terrible Slaughter on Both Sides—Impatience of the Enemy Before Paris.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 10, 1870.

The French Army of the Loire has been out-generaled, out-manœuvred, beaten, driven across the river, and has, with its commander, for several days disappeared from sight. There is great disappointment in England, for there is much pity for the French, much admiration for their almost hopeless heroism, and it must be said a mingled fear and hatred of the strong, insolent, overbearing and rapacious Prussians. For they are all that. They took Rouen the other day, with no resistance worth mentioning, and their first act was to rob the inhabitants of seventeen millions of francs. And this is the system carried out everywhere. What will it be when they get Paris, after all it has cost them? Rouen has a population of not quite one hundred thousand; Paris has two millions, so if Paris had submitted without fighting, it would have had to pay 840,000,000 francs. Paris has cost the Germans a two months' siege, the provisioning of great armies, transport of siege guns and ammunition, thousands of lives—certainly not less than thirty thousand, and perhaps fifty thousand—and has given France time to organize armies and make and import immense quantities of war materials. You may compute for yourselves the extent to which Paris may be expected to be robbed when obliged to surrender. And in the meantime will France be idle? I make no predictions—I only see what might be. I know that the Germans have Rouen and are, perhaps, at this moment thundering at the gates of Havre; that they threaten Boulogne and Dieppe; that they are forming an intrenched camp at Laôn; that they are moving on Tours, and will probably compel the Government there to make a hasty emigration, for which it has prepared by sending off everything but some light baggage weeks ago. The sky is very dark, and France has not been punished enough. The Army of the Loire had with it, and has now, I presume, wherever it may be, an immense provision train, which it hoped to convoy into Paris. Wagons in thousands were brought from the whole south and south-east of France, filling all the roads for miles, to carry food. None of these wagons have been taken. The French also lost few guns, except the naval guns, in the intrenchments at Orleans, and these were spiked before being abandoned. There seems to have been an orderly retreat, and a General deserves some credit who could take a defeated or outmanœuvred army of 200,000 men across a river, with all its material. And a good retreat requires, perhaps, more generalship than a victory. But to compel a retreat of such an army, with so little fighting, was, of course, a greater feat. The German forces were probably not over 150,000; but they were where they were wanted, and that made all the difference.

RESUME OF RECENT OPERATIONS.

Perhaps the best résumé which has yet appeared of the recent operations of the defeated French Army of the Loire is that furnished by the *Gazette de France*, in its issue of the 6th inst. From this narrative we gather that the army was posted in front of Orleans in a semicircle, extending through the Forest of Orleans, from Meung on the west to Montargis on the east. Their defenses consisted of a double line of intrenchments, mounted with ninety-five heavy cannon, brought from the arsenal of Rochefort, and manned by six hundred artillerists of the navy. The left wing, stationed at Meung, consists of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps, under the respective commands of Gen. DE CHAUZY and Gen. DE SONNIS. The centre, in front of Orleans, was commanded by Gen. DE PALLIERES, and the right, consisting of the Twentieth Corps, under Gen. CROUZAT, and the Eighteenth Corps, whose General is not named, extended to Montargis. Gen. D'AURELLES, who held the supreme command, first endeavored to turn the German left at Beaune la Rolande, where he believed them weakest, but the enemy recoiled, and, as we learn from other sources, brought up reinforcements that frustrated the French plan. Then came advices from Paris, ordering a general advance of the whole Army of the Loire on the 1st of December. On that day, accordingly, the French left stormed Guillonville, Terminiers, Villepain and Faverolles; but on the 2d of December, heavy German forces, massed before those places, with a numerous artillery, drove the French back in their turn; and a desperate battle took place at Sougy between the Germans and the Sixteenth Corps. The French who were engaged numbered only 15,000. Sougy was taken and retaken several times, but after a hand-to-hand struggle it was held by the French on Friday night. On Saturday, the troops of Prince FREDERICK CHARLES attacked the Fifteenth Corps at Chevilly, and the 20th by the route of Pithiviers, at Chilleurs-aux-Bois. The right wing was also driven to the Loire, and the enemy held the forest of Orleans. Gen. CROUZAT then passed the Loire at Jargeau, and Gen. DE PALLIERES at Orleans. The Eighteenth Corps, thus cut loose, crossed the river at Sully. Thus the Army of the Loire was beaten along the whole line piecemeal and had to retreat without having fought a single general action. The most recent estimate of the losses in this brief campaign places those of the French (including 14,000 prisoners) at 20,000, and those of the Germans in killed and wounded alone at 10,000. Since our former reference to this subject, the Bavarian commander has declared his losses at 3,100, which added to the 3,200 of the Duke of MECKLENBURG, give a total of 6,300 killed and wounded for these two armies alone. The losses of Prince FREDERICK CHARLES in the battles of Beaune, Chevilly and Chilleurs, must have been at least as large as those of either of the other commanders, a supposition which would bring the total up to at least 10,000.

THE FIGHTING OF THE FRENCH.

The Army of the Loire, declared by GAMBETTA to be intact, two hundred thousand strong, with all its material, was not beaten in any general engagement, for there was none. It was spread along a line of 130 miles, so as to be attacked here and there by superior numbers, and forced back, more by marching than fighting, until compelled to abandon the north of the Loire to allow the Germans once more to occupy Orleans. Here and there the French fought bravely. Once more the Papal Zouaves distinguished themselves and lost two-thirds of their number, with their commander wounded. Why? Because they are composed of the best materials for soldiers in France. They volunteered to go to Rome from motives of religion. They have faith, devotion and discipline. They are, moreover, to a great extent of gentle and noble birth. They have fought and died now, not for GAMBETTA and GARIBALDI or the Reds of Marseilles and Lyons, but for France. And if the Government of lawyers and doctrinaires could find or would accept of good leaders—men who could cope with the German strategists, or break down strategy with hard fighting, there are still men enough in France who love her more than life to save her yet. But the new levies, the raw, half-trained Mobiles, the just completed batteries of artillery, have a poor chance against the thoroughly trained Germans, whose matchless artillery won the battle of Sedan, and has done the work in every engagement. French cavalry, infantry, artillery, find themselves scattered, torn in pieces, dismounted by shot and shell from batteries so distant that they are scarcely visible to the naked eye. Masses of Mobiots who have never before been under fire, are demoralized by bursting shells that seem to have fallen from the sky. But more than this, is the one fact that in the operations on the Loire, as everywhere in the war, the German tactitians have been able to throw double and treble numbers upon the points required, and the defeat of one corps has compelled the retreat of others, and so the whole army was pushed across the river. Gen. D'AURELLES DE PALLADINES has resigned in disgrace, and GAMBETTA and his military adviser—said to be a young Pole, a pupil of the Polytechnic, twenty-six years old, who has planned this disastrous campaign—must try again. Will they now give a chance to BOURBAKI? He might save France; but he is an Imperialist. His sister, Mme. BRETON BOURBAKI, is with the Empress, and went with her, on Tuesday, to visit the Queen, at Windsor, returning the visit of her Majesty at Chiselhurst, and the Empress, in mourning, had a very sympathetic reception. No Imperialist can be allowed to save France. He may fight, if he will, as a subordinate. It is to be feared that the Orleanist proclivities of TROCHU are against him, and may lessen the desire to relieve Paris. GAMBETTA seems to have spent half his time since he tumbled out of his balloon, in appointing Democratic Prefects, and attending to political rather than military reorganization.

IMPATIENCE OF THE ENEMY BEFORE PARIS.

And at Paris? The Germans now expect capitulation before Christmas. The illuminations are all ready in every town in Germany. The handsome King of Bavaria has headed the movement for proclaiming King WILLIAM Emperor of Germany. The troops are very angry that Paris should be so obstinate. Not a word is now said about bombardment, and the correspondents with the German head-quarters around Paris are convinced that an effective bombardment is impossible. The fortresses around Paris keep the Germans at a respectful distance. The French have enlarged the circle of investment—bulged it out here and there—and have even crossed the Marne in face of the besiegers, and taken and retaken several villages. The besiegers are besieged, and famine alone can compel Paris to raise the white flag of surrender. How soon? There is sickness and suffering in Paris—small-pox and typhus; but if the figures of those who have charge of the provisioning of Paris—not only the troops, but the people, who must be fed by the Government—can be trusted, Paris can hold out until the 1st of March certain, and may hold out a month longer. There is meat, horses, &c., for six weeks yet, and bread, cheese and wine for two or three months longer. And if the half million of fighting men are willing to fight, it may cost the Germans a long Winter's work and a hundred thousand men yet to take Paris.

THE TERRIBLE SLAUGHTER.

We are now, by a sudden change, in Midwinter. Three days ago I looked out on a sunny landscape, meadows of richest verdure, and hedges of glistening green, varied with the white blossoms of the arbutus and laurestinus. To-day all is covered with snow. On the 25th of November a correspondent in the Loire valley wrote:

"For the last three days the march of the German Armies has been through smiling valleys, where the orchards were still laden with fruit, where hedges of roses were still in bloom, where the cattle were still lazily wading knee deep in the green meadows, and the steep hill sides were still bright with the tints of Autumn."

Now the ground is like iron and the river full of ice. But the fighting goes on. The French Army has retreated, but it may mass better when more successful south than it was north of the river. It could scarcely fight better than it did before Orleans, where its engaged forces were, as usual, overwhelmingly outnumbered. In that fierce fight, one of the fighters says he could neither see nor hear for the infernal din. The shells came in showers, cutting deep holes in the hard frozen ground. The butchery was terrific, the wounds ghastly. The Prussians were very strong in cavalry, eighty-four squadrons—and made great use of it. They first disordered the French infantry by artillery fire, and then plunged down on it with heavy masses of cavalry, using in single charges three thousand horsemen. And the French as a rule fought well. The heavy losses of the Germans show it. The officers were heroic. The Duc DE LUYNES, formerly of the Papal Zouaves, charging at the head of his company of Mobiles, had one-half of his chest carried away by a shell, and was killed instantly. He was thirty-two years old, killed on the third anniversary of his wedding day, and his youngest child is but six weeks old. Capt. HOZIER, writing from Prince FREDERICK CHARLES' head-quarters at Pithiviers, says: "The battle of Beaune-la Rolande was a real tough fight while it lasted, and I have never, I think, seen the dead lie so thick as where the French columns tried to storm Beaune. After a very severe action, they were driven back with great loss, but as it was already dark they could not be pursued for any distance." The Germans mean to pursue their successes on the Loire with vigor. Mr. RUSSELL writes that

"orders have been sent to urge the pursuit to the uttermost—to destroy, if possible, any nucleus, any rallying power in the great hope of France, and the great apprehension of the German leaders—the Army of the Loire. Relieved from that the Generals of the besieging armies may sit down in peace, eat, drink and be watchful until Paris is starved out and has eaten its last rat."

This man lives at Versailles, dines with the King, soon to be Emperor, and devotes many columns to eulogies of the Crown Prince and Count BISMARCK, and the society he is in seems to have done no good to his manners or his heart. BISMARCK says Paris must "cook in its own gravy;" "eat its last rat," is the rendering of RUSSELL. But Paris can live and fight two or three good months yet; and how it can fight the Saxons and Wurtembergers have just had some experience. BISMARCK said to one English correspondent at Versailles: "We have been losing four thousand men a day for four days." A *Times* correspondent describes the battle-fields as the most ghastly and horrible of the war, as terrible in concentrated slaughter as Woerth or Gravellotte. Hundreds of dead lay so close together on the frozen ground that there was not room for a corpse between them. Whole ranks fell shoulder to shoulder, as they stood. Some had died instantly; some had got their heads on their knapsacks—got their water-bottles; one had torn open his vest, and died with his two hands on two bullet-holes. Paris may well be proud and exultant at the way her soldiers fought and died. They have but to go on fighting, there and everywhere, and the German Armies will melt away before the Winter snows. The *Standard* diarist says:

"There was one great fact established by that sortie which will never be forgotten by the French. One of our correspondents before Paris, whose letters, written on Thursday and on Saturday last, have reached us, says that the troops of DUCROT fought with a spirit worthy of their old traditions. They were led, in many instances, by dismounted officers of rank; and so vigorously and persistently did they attack the besieging forces, that there was at one time a chance of their actually breaking through the lines."

And there is reason to believe that they would not merely have bulged in the German lines, and taken and held positions within them, but would have gone clean through, had not the Germans been able, by producing an innundation of the Marne to hinder the crossing for twenty-four hours, and so gain time to mass their opposing forces. As it was, they took and fortified one position so well that it cost the Germans, so they say at Versailles, 6,000 men to retake it; far more than it was worth.

HOPE YET FOR FRANCE.

On the whole, I believe the battles of Paris and the Loire, though for the moment unsuccessful, will give new courage and hope to France. The Manchester *Guardian* says:

"The attentive observer of recent military events cannot have failed to notice that the character of the campaign has been completely changed. We no longer hear of smashing defeats and surrenders *en masse* of armies whose soldiers are counted by the hundred thousand. A success on one side today is balanced by a victory on the other to-morrow; little ground is won or lost in a whole week of hard fighting; and the opposing forces are in all respects so nearly matched, that if the issue of the war depended solely on the results of the actual fighting, it might well last for years, instead of being finished before Christmas. Clearly this altered condition of the strife is in many respects most unfavorable to the Germans, who, convinced that Gravellotte and Sedan had given them the power of crushing the French nation, undertook the task of overrunning and conquering the whole of France. Their hopes have already been terribly disappointed. The Red Prince, who set out from Metz a month ago, with the intention of going, as he himself told Gen. CHANGARNIER, '*partout, partout, partout*,' and never reining in his horse, except, perhaps, to give orders for the bombardment of a town or two, till he reached the shores of the Mediterranean, is still occupied with his whole force above Orleans in covering the investing army of Paris."

I know that the Germans hold Amiens and Rouen, and threaten Boulogne and Havre; but there are 1,500,000 armed men in France—men with muskets—who in time will become soldiers, and the Germans cannot at the same time hold all France and take Paris. They must take Paris first, or first conquer France. This is their dilemma. And if the Germans are obliged to retreat? The *Spectator* considers this question thus:

"Should the Germans begin to retreat, all France will hurl itself upon them, till it may be well said that in January English journals will be criticising with imperturbable inconsistency 'the reckless contempt of life and commonsense so characteristic of the French in war.' The very soldiers who run will fight then, to the surprise of English mankind, who next day will quote with approval the description of CLIVE'S felons, who in their first battle shrieked with fear, and in their last, under the same chief, conquered Bengal at odds of one to thirty. Cannot our people, who are *par excellence* the people of travelers, understand that something other than 'a strip of silver sea' separates us from France; that a race full of sentiment and emotion, of impulse and of vanity, of genius and of daring, utterly dependent on its leaders, needing the brandy of success to evoke its courage, will not, in great crises, act like a stubborn *borné* people, as incapable of forming a device as of abandoning one when formed; which derives, if not new courage, new energy from defeat; and is as free from the liability to despair as it is wanting in the power to recruit its vigor on mere hope? Cannot a nation of mechanics imagine that a people 'unstable as water' may be as incompressible as that element, or believe that water, once rigidly bound, may force its way through iron? And above all, cannot we, with our unique experience in Ireland, where the bravest race in the world skulk in friese from the cause of their hearts, and fight like heroes in red for causes which they detest, comprehend that there are races to whose success in war there are certain precedent conditions, who need stimulants differing utterly in kind from those that we require? Those stimulants have, we believe, been found in France, and if both armies in the field are not crushed, and crushed at once, we believe that within a month Englishmen will be compelled to confess their error, and allow that Republican France is the equal in war of any State in Europe—even of that terrible State in which a Soldier King governs a people of soldiers as a martinet general would govern a camp, sacrificing half the ends of civilization to the discipline which is only divine when it secures them."

RETRIBUTION.

From the frontiers we have intelligence of a fearful act of retribution—to call it by no worse name—on the part of "la peuce, home-loving Germans." It is stated in a letter in the *Indépendance Belge* that RICCIOTTI GARIBALDI having left to rejoin his father near Dijon, a Prussian corps, coming from Chaumont, reoccupied Chatillon-sur-Seine, which had been the scene of the picturesque exploits of the Garibaldians. The enemy took cruel vengeance upon the inhabitants of this unfortunate town. A systematic pillage was instituted, first by about 1,000 men, and afterward by a corps of 8,000, which came to their support. The Prussians have left a garrison of 1,200 men at Chatillon, but it does not feel itself too secure. It is encamped at the railway station, and 200 inhabitants of the town are detained as hostages.

MONADNOCK.

POLITICAL MOVEMENTS IN ITALY.

Opening of Parliament—Victor Emmanuel's Speech—Parties in the Chamber—Popular Education.

From Our Own Correspondent.

FLORENCE, Tuesday, Dec. 6, 1870.

Yesterday the eleventh Parliament under the actual Constitution of Italy was opened with due formalities. The King went, as usual, accompanied by the higher personages of the royal household in a train of ornamented carriages, with moderate display, from the Pitti Palace to the hall of the *Cinque Cento*. Along the narrow streets of the short route as many soldiers and spectators as could find standing room hedged the way. In the Parliamentary Chamber all the places were filled an hour before the King arrived. His appearance was the signal for general and hearty applause, all the company standing until the King took his seat under the *baldacchino* erected for the occasion on the platform of the President of the Chamber.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

The King read his speech in a clear, ringing tone, which sent every word into the furthest recesses of the great room. The reading was repeatedly interrupted by applause. The Ministers had bestowed unusual attention upon the preparation of these words for the King's mouth, and the discourse is one of the most compact, clear and sensible of that class of compositions. Reference was made in sympathetic terms to France and Prussia, the old helpers of Italy, now engaged in a deadly struggle. So far as the policy and purposes of the Italian Government are concerned, the discourse tells us nothing new. The spirit of the whole is contained in this declaration: "Italy is free and united, and from this time forth it depends upon us alone to make her great and happy." No reference is made to the Eastern question, and it has been for some time evident that neither this Government nor people has sympathized with the wrath which has set up the back of England and threatened war.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CHAMBER.

The Chamber is to complete its organization today, by the election of Speaker, or President, as the term is here, four Vice-Presidents, and two Secretaries. Signor BIANCHERI, the presiding officer of the old Chamber, is the candidate of the Ministerial majority, and will probably be elected. The attendance of Deputies is as large as usual, more than half being in their places. Several new law projects of some importance have already been prepared for discussion. Nobody yet knows very positively how parties in the new Chamber are to be made up. Five hundred and eight is now the whole number of Deputies, and about one hundred and eighty are to take seats for the first time. The popular branch of the new Parliamentary structure is in third part composed of fresh material. A few years ago, when Italy was under the control of absolute Princes, the laws were made in a very private way, and the first notice the people had, when any new rule was laid down, was in a hand-bill, duly signed by the Sovereign, posted at the corners of the streets. Now, between eight and nine hundred law-makers sit for six months every year in the old Palace.

MANUFACTURE OF SENATORS.

The King, on the recommendation of his Council, makes new Senators by the dozen, and on the 1st of December, by royal decree, twenty-four were added to the already long list. The name of the Duke of SERMONETA is not among them, the venerable patrician preferring to take the seat in the Lower House, to which he has been elected. The Senate has now between three and four hundred members, and its bulk is

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

Valmaseda's Position—Proposed Settlement of Difficulties—Dissension Among the Insurgents—Matters at Holguin—A Strange Rehearsal.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, Dec. 17, 1870.

VALMASEDA is now firmly seated in the gubernatorial chair, and has had time enough to look around. His first act has pleased the Spaniards, as he ordered all the regulars who had hitherto been guarding the forts in the vicinity of Havana to take the field and fight against the insurgents, while the volunteers will mount guard, as during the time of DULCE. From five to six hundred men have thus been obtained to swell the Spanish forces in the field, and in a month or more we may expect at least half of that number to occupy a place in some hospital. That the Spanish soldiers have immense powers of resistance and an indomitable spirit is true beyond a doubt; were they not, or if they acted like the French, Spanish supremacy in Cuba would have been at an end long ago. Many suppose that the volunteers have done the principal work in keeping the rebellion down; but this is a great error. If the regulars had not done the marching and fighting, (and they are doing it still,) the name of CESPEDES would ere this have resounded in the palace at Havana and not in the woods. The statements about the rebellion are still as delightfully uncertain as they were eighteen months ago; no positive facts can be got at, and it is impossible to place much credence in the journals or official statements, as these are always partisan, one-sided and frequently untrue. The published Cuban reports are no better, and to judge from the articles appearing in the journals representing either the Spanish or Cuban interests, it is impossible to form the slightest conclusion. They only matter which really appears to have a foundation, is the reported sale of the island to the United States, and a report that efforts are being made to restore peace.

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF DIFFICULTIES.

Letters from prominent and reliable parties in New-York have been received here announcing the new scheme in progress to have both parties come to an understanding. Your correspondent does not vouch for the whole truth of everything as reported, but as rumors of the matter had previously reached me, I simply give the report as it came me, said report bearing a certain imprint of veracity, which is fully confirmed, if we judge by the character of those who are engaged in it. The facts of the mission, whether official or otherwise, of Mr. AZCARATE to the United States are known to everybody. Mr. AZCARATE does not command the entire confidence of either Cubans or Spaniards, and his efforts were consequently almost fruitless. Knowing this fact, and anxious to bring about some understanding, a third person had to be looked to. ZENEA, another Cuban, did not fill the want, and, by good fortune only, Mr. J. A. CLAUSSEN appeared on the scene. Mr. CLAUSSEN is a German by birth, very talented, and has been a resident merchant of Havana for about thirty years, at the head of the now extinct house of ADOT, SPAULDING & CO. Retiring from business about eight months ago, Mr. CLAUSSEN went to Europe, and about two months ago returned to New-York, intending to come back to Cuba. In New-York, it is reported, he met AZCARATE, the Spanish Minister, and ALDAMA, and it is now reported that he has been appointed a commissioner and agent by these gentlemen. This report receives a certain confirmation from the fact that Mr. CLAUSSEN has left New-York and gone to Spain.

DISUNION AMONG THE INSURGENTS.

The translation of the following letters, written by Señor F.M.RUBALCAVA, a very educated man, who holds the rank of a Brigadier or Major-General in the Cuban ranks, shows that there is a great want of unity among them. The letters are very forcible. The first, addressed to Major-Gen. MODESTO DIAZ, the Cuban General-in-Chief of the Eastern Department, is spicy, and it runs:

AUG. 18, 1870.

CITIZEN-GENERAL MODESTO DIAZ: Answering your rude letter of the 16th inst., I must confess that the brutal and filthy manner in which you express yourself does not astonish me, as your manners were known to me beforehand. The best answer I might give would undoubtedly be to treat it with disdain; but I don't desire that you should mistake my disdain for fear. On the other hand, I quite agree with you that there is a great difference between you and me, not only in honesty, but in everything else. I have never gone to any farm and taken other people's horses, nor have I committed the abuses which make your name odious among the Cubans. Neither have I betrayed my native country, or served it for the sake of gold; neither have I ever demanded any money from the Government for the large or small services I have rendered, in the manner you have been doing since you left the Spaniards to join us. I believed I have staked enough to place ourselves and our respective honesty at opposite poles, by denouncing to you honesty that of the apostate, and I opine that of the patriot, without other aim than the welfare of his country. At your orders, your affectionate

FRANCISCO M. RUBALCABA.

DIAR is a native Dominican, who sold himself to the Spaniards, when they tried to conquer the island, came with them as an officer of the army to Cuba, and after the outbreak of the revolution joined the Cubans. The style of RUBALCABA's letter ought to be a warning to all foreigners, who as adventurers or in good faith fight for a country not their own. RUBALCABA's letter to Major-Gen. VICENTE GARCIA, dated at San Miguel on the 19th of September, is another plain but of writing, and GARCIA is informed that he need not trouble himself much about RUBALCABA's rank, as he was willing to serve the Government in any capacity.

MATTERS AT HOLGUIN.

The *Voz* gives the following particulars of AURECOCHEA's capture, and affairs at Holguin. Some surrendered insurgents took a few volunteers and some soldiers to the insurgent camp. Passing by the advanced posts, they entered the woods, where they found Gen. AURECOCHEA, with his Secretary, in a hut. His guard consisted of four negroes. The guides bid them good night, telling them that those who came with them belonged to a party which desired to consult with the General; on this the negroes let them pass. In this manner the General and his Secretary were captured without the firing of a shot. The General tried to defend himself, but was knocked down by one of the volunteers with his musket. The party of AURECOCHEA consisted of over 200 men. The *Diario* adds the particulars of the conspiracy discovered at Holguin: The Spaniards intended to celebrate the second anniversary of BENNEGASSI's arrival, when a conspiracy was discovered (betrayed) which, if successful, would have placed the town in the same condition as it was in December, 1868. The attack was to take place on the 5th while all the officers were attending the ball, and the conspirators were so secure of their triumph that they had a supper prepared to celebrate. Seventeen persons have been arrested already.

A STRANGE REHEARSAL.

The new Lersundi Opera-house, barn or stable, will be opened to-night, the first rehearsal having taken place yesterday. The scene was one which none of those present can ever forget. The theatre, only half finished inside and not at all on the outside, was illuminated, the flare of the gas-lamps showing the painted and unpainted portions of the barrack in bold relief. The whole was superlatively filthy, and the contrast between the well-dressed artists and the carpenters, negroes and others, in shirt sleeves, who crowded the stage, can better be imagined than described. The public in general had been invited to attend, and the *gamins*, coachmen, loafers and other disreputable portions of the lower classes, made the most of the permission. The The parquette has no seats yet, and about five hundred persons of all classes occupied the space, shouting, swearing and smoking. A rope was stretched across to prevent the multitude from crushing the orchestra. The upper row of boxes and upper tiers were crammed with sons of Africa, with a sprinkling of whites, who tried their best to make the most hideous noises imaginable. Some of the artists sat in the side boxes, on seats improvised by a board laid across an empty paint-pot and empty rum keg. After much delay the rehearsal began. The tenor and prima donna were applauded, but the sight overcame the tenor, who went into convulsions after the first act and had to leave the theatre. The prima donna had to sing another aria so as to satisfy the noisy multitude, and then she also left. This disgraceful and stupid business is altogether due to the managers, who know but little of theatrical affairs, although the empressario has been a printer and editor of a Cuban journal, his associate maintains a liquor-shop and a gambling-house. The real owner, or rather projector of the theatre, is a good-natured and well-meaning man, who once owned a circus. The operatic company is first-class, but the theatre will always prove a failure, and respectable companies coming to Havana will be compelled to occupy the Tacon Theatre as heretofore. The new theatre has got its character at the outset, and it is difficult to remove a first impression. It is a pity that this should have been the case, but if it changes I shall be glad to chronicle the fact, as ALBRIN has always been a friend to Americans and American artists since he had his first circus.

THE HAVANA LOTTERY.

The published official statement of the Havana Lottery shows that the Government derived a net revenue over and above all expenses during the fiscal year of 1869-70 just finished of $3,247,840, against $2,233,152 in 1868-69, this being an increase of $14,687 in the past year. During 1868-69 the Government received $83,862 from unclaimed premiums, and $89,566 in 1869-70 from the same source. In a few weeks I shall be enabled to lay before your readers the plan of an American who has made offers to lease the whole lottery business.

MISCELLANEOUS GOSSIP.

Cholera continues in Santiago de Cuba....The gun-boats *Alarma* and *Victoria de las Tunas*, as previously announced, have proven total wrecks....New sugar is fast coming to market.....Arrests of persons in the Cinco Villas are on the increase....The French man-of-war, *Talisman*, which has been cruising off the coast to capture the German steamer, sighted the French steamer *Florida*, from Vera Cruz, near Cape San Antonio, and followed in hot pursuit, under the impression that it was the *New-York*. The Captain of the *Florida* imagined his persecutor to be a Prussian, and crowded on steam. The race lasted until near the port of Havana, when the *Talisman* discovered the mistake, the Frenchman entering just before nightfall. The German steamer came into port at daylight this morning, and undoubtedly owes escape from capture to the circumstance above mentioned, as the *Talisman* was absent from her cruising ground when she must have undoubtedly seen the *New-York*. As the *Talisman* is the fastest sailer of the two, her capture would have been certain.

QUASIMODO.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Continuance of the Entre Riano Rebellion—Montevideo Still Besieged—Religious Intolerance at Rosario—Indian Raid—Robbery from the National Treasury—Discovery of Guano—Trade and Agriculture.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BUENOS AYRES, Thursday, Nov. 17, 1870.

So many reports are current about affairs in Entre Rios, that we scarcely know what to believe; no news, unless of an official character, is allowed to come down, and this even cannot be depended upon. Recent details regarding the battle at Santa Rosas prove that Gen. RIVAS' report was false in almost every particular, and we now hear that owing to JORDAN having captured nearly all RIVAS' horses at the battle mentioned, pursuit is impossible, and further, that RIVAS' baggage fell into the hands of the rebels, with four hundred ounces ($6,400) gold. Instead of being utterly demoralized, accounts give the rebel force as numbering eight thousand men. Last week JORDAN attacked the national troops not far from the scene of the recent conflict. He drove back their cavalry in complete disorder, though in turn compelled to fall back before the Argentine infantry. The rebels excel their enemies in cavalry, but have but a very small force of infantry. SARMIENTO issued a proclamation recently, offering pardon to all the rebel chiefs, on condition of their leaving the province till order was restored. This has produced no effect at all. So this unfortunate war drags on, bad generalship, bad management and bad aspects being about all to name as its prominent features. Montevideo affairs are no better; the city is still besieged, and prices of all eatables have risen considerably, while the long-continued drouth has dried up most of the cisterns, so that want of water threatens to compel a surrender; live cattle are sent down almost every day, in numbers of twenty or thirty at a time, and they fetch very high prices—thus enriching the exporters this side. There seems no chance of finishing the war unless the Colorado party gives in, though a loan recently effected in England will supply the means of warfare for months to come. How £1,500,000 were raised in England seems little short of a mystery. Gen. CARABALLO, in command of the Northern Army, has resigned at last, owing to the rivalry existing between himself and SUAREZ. He was the best soldier and the man of most influence among the Colorados, who will find it difficult to fill his place.

UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT.

An occurrence took place last week at Rosario reflecting little credit on the authorities. A religious procession, with the usual accompaniment of saints, crosses, &c., was going along the streets. On these occasions natives generally kneel with hats off; but a young Englishman, a stranger in the country, was suddenly surprised by receiving a blow in the chest from the butt end of a rifle held by a soldier of the guard, which brought him to the ground. The soldier in question then called on the young man to kneel, but as he did not understand the language, the command was not obeyed, upon which the guard leveled his rifle within six inches of the Englishman's head, and was about to fire, when a priest, with more liberal views, coming along, managed to arrange matters in a satisfactory manner, else there is little doubt but that the Englishman would have been murdered. This custom of kneeling and unhatting was formerly very general even in Buenos Ayres, but now is only seen as a rule in the provincial cities where the priests still have their full influence.

INDIAN INVASION.

Another invasion of Indians has recently taken place down South, at Quequen Salado. Four thousand head of cattle were carried off and several prisoners taken. No resistance could be offered, as the settlers were almost defenseless, the troops having been reduced in numbers to give men to Entre Rios.

DISCOVERY OF GUANO.

Guano has been discovered at Chupat. A shipload arrived here last week. Whether the guano will prove of a quality sufficiently good to export is not yet known.

ROBBERY OF THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

The recent robbery of $1,500,000 from the Government house is attracting much attention. The safes were opened without force being used, evidently with keys, but no clue has been obtained as to the robbers, and probably they will never be found out. In the meantime the head cashier has been suspended, another being appointed to his post, until the investigations now being made clear the former from the appearance of complicity. Circumstantial evidence is strong to prove the robbery to have been committed by some one employed in the Treasury.

TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

Commercial news is very dull; there is nothing new to report. Agricultural prospects look very bad, as the drouth still continues; recently hard frosts outside have cut down the crops, making prospects of a good harvest worse than ever.

PICKYUNE.

Earthquakes at Sunday Islands.

A correspondent of the Auckland *Herald* of Nov. 5 says: "Through the kindness of Capt. WILSON I am enabled to send to you for the information of the public, intelligence of some very interesting phenomena that have just been witnessed in these seas—the fresh existence, in active operation, of two volcanic islands, thrown up to heights respectively 300 feet and 250 feet, in the harbor of the Sunday Islands. Some severe shocks of earthquakes were felt a week previous to the appearance of the first volcano, enveloping all in a chaos of confusion—one shock dividing the island most effectually, and sending up with immense force from the centre of the harbor a continuous admixture of stones, mud, charred wood, &c., to a height of about 2,000 feet. These submarine disturbances of mother earth's have, of course, thrown the Sunday Islanders into great adversity, and one family of whites (American,) found there by Capt. WILSON, would most likely have perished but for his timely assistance."

MURDER AND SUICIDE.

A Shocking Tragedy near Syracuse—The Results of a Family Quarrel.

From the Syracuse Journal, Dec. 24.

A shocking tragedy occurred in the adjoining town of De Witt, at the Collamer settlement, six miles out of this city, at 5 o'clock Friday afternoon. It was the result of a family feud, which has been in progress for some years, and has involved two families in serious trouble during that time. Two well-known residents of that place are the victims. JAMES C. TALLMAN, aged sixty-seven years, was murdered by LORENZO D. GARRETT, his son-in-law, aged thirty-two years. The murder was committed at 5 o'clock yesterday (Friday) afternoon. The murderer, GARRETT, immediately thereafter took his own life.

TALLMAN and GARRETT owned adjoining farms, and lived about sixty rods apart. They had been engaged in personal quarrels for the past twelve or fourteen years, ever since GARRETT's property, which TALLMAN and his wife wished to manage, and which Mrs. GARRETT had got into her possession. GARRETT has been considered an insane man, and was so adjudged by a legal commission about two years ago.

The first act of the tragedy took place at about 5 o'clock. GARRETT left his own house at that hour, with some bags in his hands, and was seen by his son, aged about a dozen years, to put something, which the lad supposed to be a hammer, into his coat pocket. He proceeded to TALLMAN's premises, and went into the barn-yard, where the old man TALLMAN had just gone to milk the cows. Mrs. TALLMAN immediately thereafter heard her husband cry "murder," twice repeated. She ran to the door and saw GARRETT strike TALLMAN, who fell to the earth. She re-entered the house and got a pistol, and, on GARRETT's approaching the house, with the undoubted intention of killing her, she attempted to discharge it at him, but she failed. GARRETT turned and went toward his own house.

GARRETT was seen by members of his family to pass through his door-yard and go to the barn. Several men who were passing a few minutes after the murder, were apprised of the death of TALLMAN, and proceeded to GARRETT's, when they discovered his dead body hanging in his barn. He had hung himself by a rope suspended from a girder of the hay-loft. He had tied the rope to a cross-beam, and fastening it about his neck, jumped off. Life was extinct, but it was quite warm when it was cut down. The death of TALLMAN was caused by several blows from a hammer or ax. The right side of his skull was frightfully crushed in, and the brain exuded from the wound. He was doubtless killed by the first blow of the murderous weapon. It is not known with what weapon the deed was done, as no implement has yet been found.

The parties were in comfortable circumstances. TALLMAN's property is estimated at about $10,000, and GARRETT's at about $6,000. TALLMAN owned about eighty acres of land, and has lived on it for many years. GARRETT, we believe, was a native of the town of Salina, and married TALLMAN's daughter about fourteen years ago. There is much excitement in the vicinity of this double tragedy. The bodies, which were removed to the respective dwellings of the deceased, were visited last night and this forenoon by hundreds of excited people. The local sympathy is with GARRETT. Coroner DIDAMA reached the scene at about 1 o'clock this afternoon, and was to hold an inquest immediately.

A Queer Case of Fraud.

J. EDWARD IRELAND, of Mount Vernon, Westchester County, was arraigned yesterday, before Justice DOWLING at the Tombs Police Court, upon a charge of fraudulently obtaining from CLEVELAND F. DUNDERDALE the patent-right for generating carburetted illuminating gas. The complaint alleged that IRELAND had, in June last, proposed to DUNDERDALE to purchase the patent, saying he owned an interest in the Mount Vernon Gas Company, for which he had paid $40,000, but it was worth $65,000; that he also owned the house and lot where he lived, worth $20,000, and around adjoining worth $15,000. Having made these representations, he offered to give $50,000 for the patent right, and to pay it in three promissory notes for $16,666 66 each, payable at four, eight and twelve months. He also offered a promissory note for $20,000, due him from responsible persons in Connecticut. The offer was accepted, and on June 8 the parties met at No. 30 Wall-street, when and where the necessary papers were drawn and signed, IRELAND immediately taking the deed of conveyance and going out without giving the notes. DUNDERDALE at once commenced a suit against IRELAND in the Superior Court, and obtained an injunction restraining him from using the patent or disposing of the right to others. DUNDERDALE having also learned that the representations of IRELAND as to his property were all false, began the criminal prosecution, which resulted in Judge DOWLING, yesterday, committing the prisoner for examination.

Masonic Election.

The officers elect for the ensuing year, of Independent Royal Arch Lodge No. 2, F. and A. M., of this City, of which M. W. JOHN H. ANTHON, Grand Master of Masons of this State is a Past Master, are as follows:

Henry D. Walker, Master; Henry N. Morgan, Senior Warden; Edward H. Perkins, Jr., Junior Warden; Edwin R. McCarty, Treasurer; William D. Everit, Secretary; Claudius H. Beatty, Senior Deacon; D. Reynolds Budd, Junior Deacon; Charles F. Allen, Charles C. Leeds and Charles L. Rathborne, Trustees; R. W. Rev. F. C. Ewer, Rev. Geo. Nixon and Rev. Royal Marshal, Chaplains; Joseph B. Ecclestone, Marshal; Edward Miller, Organist; Nathan L. Ely and John E. Hillyer, Jr., Stewards; John R. Gordon and James Bryce, Masters of Ceremonies; John A. Hatt, John S. Washburn and Wesley E. Shader, Committee of Correspondence; Edward Miller, George H. Gardner, William De Lacy and Paul F. Schoen, Committee on Music; John C. Bushnell, Charles M. Cornwell, Edward W. Chamberlin, Henry Martin and Charles R. Scribner, Posting Committee; William Smith, Tiler; Craven Peyton, Assistant Tiler.

LAW REPORTS.

SUPERIOR COURT—SPECIAL TERM.

Before Judge Jones.

INTERESTING QUESTION OF PRACTICE.

Asa A. Hall vs. *John Emmons et al.*—This action is brought on an undertaking given in an action pending in this Court, wherein the present plaintiff was plaintiff, and the defendant Paine the defendant, and in which defendant was arrested under an order of arrest, whereby these defendants undertook in the sum of $1,000 that said Paine should render himself at all times amenable to the process of this Court during the pendency of this action, and to such as might be issued to enforce its judgment therein, or toward judgment was rendered for the plaintiff in the action for $1,348; an execution was issued against the property of the defendant and returned unsatisfied; thereupon an execution was issued against the body of the defendant and returned not found. Thereupon this action was commenced on that undertaking. It was commenced by the service of summons without a complaint. The defendant having neglected to surrender the defendant, Paine, within twenty days after the commencement of this action, moved, at a Special Term, for a discontinuance of this action; or that the defendants have time to plead to the complaint therein or for such other or further order or relief as to this Court shall seem meet. On this motion the Court at Special Term made an order on the 9th of January "that the defendants have leave to surrender the defendant, James L. Paine, within ten days into the custody of the Sheriff of the City and County of New-York, upon the service of a certified execution issued against the body of said defendant, James L. Paine, at the suit of plaintiff in this action." The defendants complied with this order, and made the surrender within the ten days. The plaintiff appealed to the General Term from this order, and obtained a stay of defendant's proceedings under the said Special Term order, but the surrender was made before the stay was served. The General Term reversed the Special Term order. From the order of reversal the defendants appealed to the Court of Appeals, but obtained no stay of plaintiff's proceedings. The plaintiff accordingly, pending the appeal to the Court of Appeals, proceeded with the action and took judgment against the defendants for want of an answer. An execution was issued thereon, and the amount thereof collected by the Sheriff from the defendants and paid over to plaintiff's attorney. After this the Court of Appeals reversed the General Term order, and affirmed that of the Special Term. The defendants now move for an order vacating and annulling the judgment entered in this action, and to set aside the execution issued thereon, and annul all proceedings had by virtue of it, and discharging the order of judgment and reference, and confirmation of the referee's report herein, and vacating and annulling each and every order made in behalf of the plaintiff since April 20, 1870; and for an order giving judgment in favor of defendants and against plaintiff for their costs; and for an order exonerating defendants from all liability on the bail-bond in this action; and for an order giving defendants such other and further relief as shall seem proper; and for an order directing the plaintiff and his attorney to forthwith return and pay back to defendants the money received by them from said Sheriff, collected upon the aforesaid execution.

JONES, J., in rendering his decision, says: The Special Term order of Jan. 28, 1870, gave the defendants leave to surrender defendant, James L. Paine, within ten days. Within that time, and before defendants' proceedings under the order were stayed, the surrender was made, and defendants entitled to exoneration. The fact that this Special Term order was on appeal reversed by the General Term order, is of no consequence as between the parties to this action, since the General Term order has itself been reversed and the Special Term order affirmed by the Court of Appeals. The Special Term order stands in full force, and the defendants are entitled to all the rights which they obtained by reason of compliance with it. These rights are an exoneration. Granting this right it follows that all proceedings in the action inconsistent with it must be vacated. (1 Wend., 81,) and that the defendants are entitled to restitution. It is true the plaintiff's proceedings not having been stayed, he was at liberty to proceed to judgment after the reversal by the General Term of the order of January, 1870, but he did so at the peril of the order of the General Term being reversed, and that of the Special Term being affirmed by the Court of Appeals. (The People ex rel. Gould *vs.* the Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, 4 Wend., p. 81.) Let an order be entered vacating all proceedings had in this action subsequent to the 30th day of January, 1870, except the appeal to the General Term from a Special Term order of Jan. 28, 1870, the decision and order of the General Term thereon, the appeal from the General Term order to the Court of Appeals, the decision and order of the Court of Appeals thereon, and the order of this Court making the order of the Court of Appeals the order of this Court; said proceedings had subsequent to Jan. 30, 1870, are, however, to stand for the purpose of being pleaded, and may be pleaded as a bar to any action of assault and battery, false imprisonment or malicious prosecution that may be brought in respect to any action had under, by virtue or by color of said proceedings; also, exonerating the defendants as bail, and perpetually staying all proceedings in this action, except such as are necessary to compel restitution as hereby ordered; and also directing the plaintiff to make restitution to the defendants of the amount collected from them under the execution issued herein, (exclusive, however, of the costs contained in the judgment herein,) with interest thereon.

A. H. Reavey, for motion; S. A. Walker, opposed.

DECISIONS.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—DEC. 24.

By Presiding Justice Ingraham.

Duryee *vs.* The Mayor, &c., of New-York; motion granted.

Wilson *vs.* Olmstead; examination ordered.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—DEC. 24.

$11,000	U. S. 5-20 C., '65, n.	109⅜	
5,500	do.	109⅜	
1,500	U. S. 5-20 C., '62	107⅜	
50,000	U. S. 5-20 C., '67	110⅜	
10,000	do.	b2.	110
12,000	do.		109⅜
100,000	do.	b30.	109⅜
10,000	do.		110
20,000	U. S. 5-20 C., '68		110⅛
20,000	U. S. 5s, 10-40 C.		106⅜
5,000	do.		106⅜
3,000	Tenn. 6s, old		69
10,000	Tenn. 6s, new		62¾
20,000	do.		62¾
20,000	do.		62¾
28,000	Va. 6s, old		67¾
5,000	do.	s. 66, new, Jan. & July	68
8,000	Mo. 6s		92
1,000	Erie 2d, '79		91
2,000	Union Pac. 1st		79
27,000	U. P. R. R. L. G. B.		87
1,000	Q. & Tol. 1st		82
4,000	Chi. & Alt. 1st		103
17,000	C. C. & Ind. 1st		81¾
64	Mech. Bank		70
100	Pacific Mail		39⅜
80	West. Union Tel.		45
10c	do.		46⅝
100	do.	s. Exercise,	46⅜
100	Morris & Essex		86
200	Del., L. & W.		b. 103⅝
10	U. S. Express		83¼
10	N. Y. C. & H. R.		91
100	Consol'd		91
100	do.	b. c. o.	90¾
5000	N. Y. C. & H. R. Cts		87⅛
10000	do.	c.	87⅛
100	Reading		98⅛
100	do.	c.	98⅛
100	Erie		23⅞
100	do.	c.	23⅞
100	Harlem		132⅜
100	L. S. & Mich. So.		91¼
300	do.	s8.	91½
300	do.		91⅜
100	Ohio & Miss.	c.	27⅜
100	do.		27⅞
200	do.	c.	27⅞
200	do.	b3.	27⅜
300	do.		27⅞
100	Chi. & R. I.		103⅜
100	do.	c.	103⅛
50	Panama		77½
200	Chi. & N. W.		70½
200	Chi. & N. W. Pf.	b.	80⅝
200	do.		80⅝
200	do.	b8.	80⅜
300	do.		80⅜
400	Tol., W. & West.	s2.	49
200	do.	s3.	47⅜
100	Mil. & St. Paul		55⅜
400	do.	b30.	55⅜
50	Mil. & St. P. Pf.		79⅜
50	Pitts. & F. W. C. G.		92¼

MONDAY, Dec. 26—A. M.

The general Trade of the week past improved on the previous week, especially in the lines of Imported Merchandise and Domestic Exports. The Customs paid into the Treasury Office here on Foreign Goods marketed amount to nearly two millions. The value of Domestic Produce cleared to Foreign markets is close upon six millions. The City Holiday shopping trade was quite active, and in the lines of Jewelry, Books, Engravings, Fancy Goods, &c., was nearly or quite equal to last season, business being much favored by the fine weather of the week.

At the South, as well as in New-York, the Cotton trade partially improved in prices, on rather lighter receipts than for the previous fortnight. The receipts were 130,000 bales, and the exports to Foreign markets 90,000 bales. The former are now 274,000 bales ahead of the previous crop year, to date, and the latter 201,000 bales ahead of the clearances of last season. The difference, from reduced price, however, would leave the value of 827,000 bales sent abroad this season to less than the value of the 626,000 in 1869. The price of low middlings is now about 15½ as against 25 cents last Christmas.

The Bank movement was somewhat disturbed during the week, and Money made dear by a renewed experiment by certain bearish operators on the Stock Exchange upon the "lock-up" practice, which can hardly yet be called a system, since it is necessarily varied from week to week, as its detection and exposure in one quarter drives it to another and to different subterfuges for annoying the Money market and harassing the Stock Exchange. These raids have told upon the deposits at Bank, available for employment on the Street, since our last weekly review nearly two million of dollars, a sum comparatively small in itself to the general Bank movement, but sufficient, at this season of the year, when the surplus in reserve is, as usual in December, before the New-Year Dividends, quite reduced, to affect the whole market.

With all, however, the price of Money finally left off 7 ₱ cent. and in fair supply, and the quotations for Stocks nearly the same as on Saturday week, and as the New-Year Dividends are to be anticipated this season by a week, the chances are that the opportunity for another successful "lock up" will not occur. The second and last of these experiments would have utterly failed had the Secretary of the Treasury, in place of ordering the payment of $4,000,000 of 5 ₱ cents. due Jan. 1 in Gold without rebate of interest, directed half the sum in Greenbacks, of which the Office here now holds idle nearly thirteen millions, to be applied to an extra purchase of United States 5-20s last Thursday. The 1871s have not been presented for prepayment, and it seems doubtful whether they will appear before New Year's.

The weekly averages of the Associated Local and National Banks in the Clearing-house of the City, for the week ending Saturday last, Dec. 24, compare as follows with the previous week, and with the corresponding week last year, to which we add the Specie and Currency balances in the New-York offices of the United States Treasury, at these dates, respectively:

	Dec. 24, '70.	Dec. 17, '70.	Dec. 24, '69.
Decrease in Loans			$1,567,789
Increase in Specie			409,183
Decrease in other Legal Tenders			702,392
Decrease in Deposits			3,275,637
Increase in Circulation			35,825
National Capital	$73,035,000	$73,435,000	$73,435,000
Local Capital	12,069,898	13,129,800	13,129,800
Total	$85,104,898	$86,564,800	$86,564,800
Loans	251,096,000	266,378,918	264,811,129
Gold and Gold Notes	23,419,977	17,980,573	18,386,758
Other Legal Tenders	44,403,962	47,442,980	46,739,688
Deposits	177,165,586	192,024,391	188,748,754
Circulation	34,127,837	32,154,358	32,487,983
In Sub-Treasury	86,493,121	67,064,908	73,700,030

The Bank statement published today exhibits the following relative strength of the movement in the point of lawful money security to the previous statement. The Banks owe:

	Dec. 17, '70.	Dec. 24, '69.	Dec. 25, '69.
On deposit	$192,024,391	$188,748,754	$177,165,586
Circulation	32,154,358	32,182,983	34,127,837
Total	$224,178,749	$220,931,737	$211,293,423
25 ₱ cent. would be	56,044,687	55,232,934	52,823,356
They hold In Gold and Greenbacks	65,422,653	65,129,344	72,913,969
Excess	$9,377,966	$9,896,410	$20,090,613
Rate for money	7 ₱ ct.	7 ₱ ct.	7 ₱ ct.

The import entries for the past week, including the Dry Goods return in our last paper, amount to $4,874,656, against the total entries of $4,010,781 same week last year. The export Clearances of Domestic Produce amount to $5,903,096, against $3,640,500 same week last year. The export of Specie, $420,127, against none reported same week last year. The Customs of the week are $1,945,082. The receipts of Cotton, coastwise and by railroad, are 34,912 bales.

The Gold value of the Import Entries of Foreign Merchandise at New-York since Jan. 1, 1870, are as follows, the figures being official to Nov. 1, and since semi-official from the Custom-house, the entries of Foreign Specie being omitted:

January	$23,291,319	October	$22,443,471
February	23,831,656	Nov. 5	4,173,103
March	27,253,934	Nov. 12	4,906,600
April	28,567,274	Nov. 19	5,219,745
May	24,316,608	Nov. 26	5,898,787
June	23,220,944	Dec. 3	5,947,879
July	23,610,215	Dec. 10	6,012,490
August	29,829,299	Dec. 17	6,318,562
September	26,903,208	Dec. 24	4,974,656
Total since Jan. 1			$290,836,840
Against the same date, 1869			287,365,700
Increase since Jan. 1			$13,471,140

The currency value of Exports of Domestic Produce and Miscellaneous Goods, including Foreign Goods re-exported from New-York since Jan. 1, 1870, is as follows:

January	$12,893,160	October	$16,659,494
February	11,947,146	Nov. 2	3,856,161
March	18,945,095	Nov. 9	5,181,356
April	14,697,825	Nov. 16	5,808,002
May	15,116,599	Nov. 23	4,343,804
June	17,700,983	Nov. 30	4,810,040
July	14,717,879	Dec. 7	7,077,299
August	13,892,530	Dec. 14	4,679,671
September	16,082,468	Dec. 21	5,903,096
Total since Jan. 1			$192,851,488
Against same date, 1869			192,066,024
Increase since Jan. 1			$785,464
Gold, Dec. 24, 1870			110⅛ ₱ cent.
Gold, Dec. 25, 1869			120⅝ ₱ cent.

The Exports of Gold and Silver of all descriptions from New-York since Jan. 1, 1870, are as follows:

January	$2,693,393	October	$2,416,356
February	2,194,254	Nov. 5	2,156,924
March	1,821,001	Nov. 12	410,135
April	1,808,616	Nov. 19	655,078
May	4,485,273	Nov. 26	449,884
June	4,254,262	Dec. 3	519,863
July	18,222,451	Dec. 10	800,468
August	10,087,040	Dec. 17	265,029
September	4,618,850	Dec. 25	420,127
Total			$88,023,947
Against same date, 1869			31,227,200
Increase since Jan. 1			$56,795,057

The following are the Customs receipts in Gold, and the interest paid on the Public Debt in Gold, at the New-York office of the United States Treasury, since Jan. 1, 1870:

	Customs received.	Gold interest paid.
January	$10,152,236	$17,692,723
February	11,961,925	1,792,043
March	12,264,998	3,784,311
April	12,193,873	336,564
May	11,685,468	16,918,162
June	10,263,804	2,034,251
July	11,139,760	17,494,731
August	15,645,237	2,221,753
September	14,704,034	3,366,005
October	11,724,402	2,112,636
November	9,576,294	14,023,556
Dec. 3	1,063,516	194,459
Dec. 10	1,947,306	1,541,048
Dec. 17	1,453,020	849,000
Dec. 24	1,945,082	328,455
Total, 1870	$138,089,758	$85,946,919
Total, 1869	128,730,274	89,388,970

COURSE OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE—THIS WEEK.

	Dec. 25, '70.	Saturday.
American Gold	110⅛@110⅜	120⅛
Old U. S. 5-20s, 1862	107⅜@107⅝	113⅛
Consolidated 5-20s	109⅝@110	115
U. S. 5 ₱ cents, 10-40s	106⅛@106⅜	109
N. Y. Cen. & Hud.	91⅜@91⅝	87⅛
N. Y. Cen. & Hud. Scrip	91⅜@91⅝	82
Rock Island	106⅛@106⅜	104⅝
Lake Shore	91⅝@92⅛	88⅛
North-western	71⅜@73⅜	68⅛
Reading	97⅞@98⅛	99⅜
N. West Pref.	81⅛@82	83
Ohio and Mississippi	29⅛@27⅞	23⅜
Pacific Mail	40⅛@39⅝	48⅛
St. Paul Pref.	80⅜@79@80⅛	85⅛
St. Paul Common	55⅝@54⅞@55⅝	73
New Tennessee 6s	61@62¼	45
Toledo and Wabash	49⅛@48⅜	82½
Central Pacific Bonds	92⅞@92⅝	97¼
Union Pacific Bonds	80⅛@77⅛	84
Western Union Telegraph	45⅛@44⅞@45	23½
Erie	23⅝@23⅜	23½

The Brokers on Saturday made half a Holiday at the Exchange Board, and adjourned early for Christmas preparations.

Money ruled active through the day at 7 ₱ cent. on call loan. In the Afternoon the offerings increased from lenders, on the calculation of placing their balances until T

The New York Times.

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, DEC. 26, 1870.

Amusements this Evening.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.
Broadway, corner 13th-st.
COQUETTES. Leading characters by Messrs. John Brougham, Fisher, Marlowe, Miss Madeline Henriques, Miss Effie Germon and Miss Fowler.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.
Broadway, near Houston-st.
WEE WILLIE WINKIE. Characters by Messrs. G. L. Fox, Honeywood, Atkins, Miss Fanny Beane, Miss Rogers, Miss Yeamans, and others.
MATINEE at 2 o'clock.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.
8th-av., corner 23d-st.
LES BRIGANDS. Leading characters by Mlle. Montaland, Mlle. Persini, and M. Gausins.
MATINEE at 2 o'clock.

NIBLO'S GARDEN.
Broadway, near Prince-st.
THE BLACK CROOK. Leading characters by Messrs. Morton, Rogers, Hamilton, and Miss Pauline Markham.
MATINEE at 1½ o'clock.

FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.
24th-st., near Broadway.
SARATOGA. Leading characters by Messrs. Harkins, Lewis, Davidge, Miss Fanny Davenport and Miss Fanny Morant.
MATINEE at 2 o'clock.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.
6th-av., corner 23d-st.
RIP VAN WINKLE. Leading characters by Messrs. Joseph Jefferson, Sheridan, Anderson and Miss Mary Wells.
MATINEE at 1½ o'clock.

LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE.
Broadway, near Waverley-place.
LITTLE JACK SHEPPARD. Leading characters by Miss Ada Harland, Miss Lina Edwin, and Mr. Leffingwell.
MATINEE at 2 o'clock.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner 30th-st.
DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE. Afternoon and evening. Large collection of curiosities on exhibition.

NEW-YORK CIRCUS.
14th-st., between 2d and 3d avs.
GRAND EQUESTRIAN and GYMNASTIC PERFORMANCES.
MATINEE at 2½ o'clock.

STEINWAY HALL,
14th-st., near 4th-av.
THE MESSIAH. (Oratorio.) Artists: Miss Maria Brainard, Miss C. V. Hutchings, Messrs. Geo. Simpson, Josiah Jewett, and others.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT ARMORY.
Broadway, junction of 6th-av. and 35th-st.
GRAND FAIR OF THE UNION HOME AND SCHOOL, (orphans of soldiers and sailors.)

THIRD-AVENUE RINK.
3d-av., near 63d-st.
SKATING THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

FIFTH-AVENUE POND.
5th-av., near 46th-st.
SKATING AND MUSIC DAY AND EVENING.

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The DAILY TIMES, per annum, including the Sunday Edition.....$12
The DAILY TIMES, per annum, exclusive of the Sunday Edition.....10
The Sunday Edition, per annum.....2
The SEMI-WEEKLY, per annum.....3
Two copies, one year.....5
Ten copies, one year.....25
An extra copy to getter-up of club, and a splendid steel engraving of the late HENRY J. RAYMOND.
The WEEKLY TIMES, per annum.....2
Five copies, one year.....8
Ten copies, one year.....15
An extra copy to getter-up of club, and a splendid steel engraving of the late HENRY J. RAYMOND.
Twenty copies, one year.....25
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Ordinary classified advertisements, 20 cents per line each insertion.
Business Notices, fifth page, before Marriages and Deaths, 50 cents per line each insertion.
Special Notices, fifth page, after Marriages and Deaths, 30 cents per line each insertion.
Advertisements on eighth page, 30 cents per line each insertion.
City Items with word "advertisement" prefixed 80 cents per line each insertion.
Deaths or Marriage Notices, $1 each insertion.
The above have been the fixed advertising rates of the NEW-YORK TIMES for the past eight years, and will not be changed, although our circulation has largely increased during that time.

To Advertisers.

Advertisers in the TIMES are requested to bring in their notices at as early an hour in the day as possible. If received after 8½ o'clock, it will be impossible to classify them under their proper heads.
☞ For the accommodation of up-town residents, advertisements for insertion in the TIMES will be received at No. 54 West 23d-st., junction of Broadway and 6th-av., and at No. 40 East 14th-st., between Broadway and 4th-av.; also at No. 6 Astor-place, at same rates as are charged at office of publication.
☞ Messrs. DREXEL, HARJES & Co., Bankers, No. 2 Rue Scribe, Paris, are the accredited agents for the NEW-YORK TIMES in that city.

Notice.

We cannot notice anonymous communications. In all cases we require the writer's name and address, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.
We cannot under any circumstances return rejected communications, nor can we undertake to preserve manuscripts.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE WAR.

A Cherbourg telegram reports the statement that the French Army of the North defeated the Prussians on the 23d near Amiens, but dispatches from Amiens and London say the French were routed, the Germans taking 1,000 prisoners. The French were 60,000 strong, and the Germans had two divisions engaged. Gen. FAIDHERBE telegraphs the French War Department in relation to the battle, that his army engaged the enemy at Pont Nozelle on the forenoon of the 23d, and after fighting until six in the evening the Prussians were driven. For the greater portion of the time, he reports, it was an artillery duel, but the successful end was brought about by a brilliant charge of the French infantry along the entire line. A Brussels dispatch, however, by way of London, 23d, reports that the Prussians were surrounding the army of this General, and had occupied Suissons and Sissonne; while another telegram says the German garrisons at Rheims and Chalons have been augmented in view of the threatening attitude of the French Army of the North. Leading citizens of Chalons have been arrested and sent to Germany as hostages, the city having refused to pay the requisitions made by the invaders.

The French official report of the engagement at Nuits says that 24,000 Germans attacked the French, who numbered only 10,000. After five hours' fighting the French retreated half a mile. Reinforcements coming up the next morning, the Prussians retreated in such haste that they lost the prisoners taken the previous day. A Lyons dispatch of the 20th says that the occupation of Nuits caused a panic in the former city, during which orators made frantic appeals to the people, the tocsin was sounded, the guards mustered, and a procession of women in mourning passed through the streets. Gen. ARNAUD, on refusing to admit a crowd of "Reds" to the Hotel de Ville, was assailed, and in self-defense discharged his revolver at his assailants. He was overpowered and shot, on conviction, at a mock trial in which his assailants were the judges. The Municipality of Lyons has expressed a desire that GARIBALDI be made a member of the Government of National Defense. The reports of successful sorties from Paris to the north, south and east, and the capture of several strong Prussian positions, are confirmed. King WILLIAM telegraphed to the Queen, on Friday, his version of the last Paris sortie. He states that it was prompted by the mistaken idea that a French army of relief was approaching; and he adds that many prisoners were taken by his soldiers, and that the sortie was entirely repulsed. The weather is intensely cold at and about Versailles. Balloon reports from Paris to the night of the 22d have been received. The journals in the city estimated the loss in the combats of the 21st at about 800 killed and wounded, and warmly praise the conduct of the National Guard. Tours has been reoccupied by the Germans. A London telegram says the Nineteenth Prussian Division refused to occupy the place, although invited by the Mayor, and contented themselves with destroying the railroad through the city and encamping in the suburbs.

The Empress EUGENIE is negotiating for the use of Drury-lane Theatre, London, for a benefit performance in aid of the fund for the French prisoners of war. BISMARCK has formally notified the representatives of the North German Confederation at foreign courts that French officers are breaking their parole not to serve in the army during the present war, with the evident sanction of the French Government; and that consequently peremptory measures will be taken to stop the business. Four escaped French prisoners, surrendered by the Dutch to the Germans, have been shot, and M. CHADOURDY, in a diplomatic dispatch to the Hague announcing this, expresses his horror and indignation, and protests that the courage and misfortunes of the French soldiers give them a claim to hospitality among civilized constitutional States.

GENERAL EUROPEAN NEWS.

The Berlin *Gazette* says, in commenting on the Luxembourg question, that the security of the Grand Duchy depended on religious observance of neutrality, and that Prussia must interfere if her troops are assailed in passing through it....The first meeting of the conference on the Eastern question is to take place Jan. 3, 1871. Prince CHARLES of Roumania, directs attention to the fact that his position, as determined by the Treaty of Paris, is no longer tenable....Queen VICTORIA has sent congratulations to the King of Prussia on his acceptance of the title of Emperor of Germany...The Italian Chamber recently passed, by a vote of 122 to 18, the bill authorising a change of capital from Florence to Rome within six months, and has adjourned till Jan. 16....The observations of the eclipse made in Spain were satisfactory, but those made at Syracuse, Sicily, were imperfect, in consequence of the bad weather....The port of Antwerp is crowded with shipping, and vessels are refused admission. The river is freezing The Elbe is also filling with ice....The Mont Cenis Tunnel will be completed in one or two days, according to the latest reports.

GENERAL.

The schooner *Georgia Todd*, bound from Calais, Me., to Havana, with a load of lumber, was lost on the 16th inst. in a gale. Four persons, including the Captain's wife, were drowned, and the remainder of the crew, four in number, were rescued by a British vessel and taken to Boston.

The coroner's investigation of the Hartford, Conn., accident, tends to show that Rev. Mr. STONE, who was killed, saw the approaching train, and that the engineer did his best to avoid the collision.

The case of Sheriff JACKSON, of Trinity County, Cal., which will be tried soon, is regarded with great interest, involving as it does important political questions. JACKSON has been indicted for collecting the foreign miners' tax from Chinese, in alleged violation of the Fifteenth Amendment.

Hon. JAMES WHITE, the oldest member of the Waldo County (Me.) bar, died suddenly on Saturday.

LORENZO D. GARRETT, at Callamar, N. Y., on Friday night, murdered his father-in-law, JAMES C. TALLMAN, and then killed himself. The two had long been quarreling about some property.

The Southern Express Company was robbed on the 21st inst., near Pensacola, Fla.; $13,000 were stolen, $12,000 of which belonged to the United States Navy Department.

W. H. WISNER, son of a recent candidate for Governor in Tennessee, shot Mr. STAHLMAN, on Thursday evening, at Shelbyville, in that State, because he would not give him a receipt for a sum of money.

Severe weather is reported from all quarters. In some of the Southern States it is said to be the coldest within the memory of the inhabitants.

Continuous gales on the Northern Atlantic have thus far thwarted the efforts to repair the damaged cables, but the *Robert Lowe* is in position waiting for favorable weather to proceed with the work.

The population of Ohio is 2,663,681.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Washington have refused the use of their hall, which was named for President LINCOLN, to JOHN H. SURRATT to repeat his "lecture" in.

They are having fine weather at San Francisco, with plenty of strawberries, flowers, and new vegetables in the market.

Eastern invalids are seeking health in the southern counties of California.

There is excellent skating on the Potomac River at Washington, an unusual thing at Christmas.

The Congressional Deficiency bill of the current fiscal year, as prepared by Secretary BOUTWELL, appropriates $3,850,805 38.

A special dispatch from Ottawa to the Montreal *Gazette*, dated Dec. 23, says: "I understand that highly satisfactory dispatches have been received from England relative to the position assumed by the Canadian Government in reference to the fishery question."

The Spotswood Hotel, at Richmond, Va., was burned early yesterday morning. The fire broke out before the guests were up, and a terrible panic ensued when they were awakened. Several persons are known to have been burned to death, and the fate of others is still uncertain. The pecuniary loss was upward of $700,000.

The National Capital.

The President, speaking on Wednesday night to the processionists who went to the White House to welcome him, said he thought the question of removing the capital should not be subject to a mere majority of the representatives of the people elected for a single term, "but that it should be settled by a constitutional amendment." There is no doubt of the soundness of this. If the people ever permit the capital to be moved by a Congressional vote, we may rely on it it will be moved more than once. To get a national capital fairly settled, and acknowledged to be in the proper place, is the work of time. The general acquiescence in the choice made of the site for the City of Washington was due in great part to the powerful influence on public opinion of the leading men of the Revolution, to the sparseness of the population, the slowness with which public opinion worked in those days, and the absence of the spirit of speculation, especially of speculation about land.

The same causes which led to the easy choice of a site for the capital has led also to its quiet and undisturbed growth during the first sixty years of its existence. It is quite certain that in the present state of the country nothing of the kind would be possible. The choice of a fresh site would now, as any one may see who watches the present agitation, be exceedingly difficult. What with State pride and jealousy, and the hopes of real estate speculators, it would, perhaps, be nearly as hard to get the country to agree upon the best place for the Federal capital, as it would be to get a general agreement about the beauty of a particular woman, or the merits or capacity of a particular man.

If, too, the matter were left in the hands of Congress, it is quite certain that even if the choice were once made it would not be very long adhered to. What a vote had done, a vote might undo, and every session there would be stout opposition to appropriations for permanent buildings or other improvements, in order to prevent the new city taking root, and the Government buildings would probably long continue to be wooden structures of greater or less meanness and insecurity. Every year, too, there would be two or three powerful lobbies, representing the city lot "Rings," working at Washington for other places, and offering fabulous inducements to Senators and Representatives to vote for another change. Indeed there is little doubt that the provision of new sites for the capital would become a favorite occupation of large numbers of railroad and land operators, and we should have reason to be thankful if the Government business did not at last come to be transacted in a set of vans, like that of a traveling showman or photographer, ready to be moved each session to any point which Congress or the public pointed out as the true and only spot fit to become the seat of Government for a great nation.

If, as the President suggests, the capital can only be moved by a constitutional amendment,—and we cannot doubt he is right—there is not much danger that it will ever be moved. The passage of a constitutional amendment, even when the proposed amendment has a powerful majority at its back, is a very tedious process. It usually lasts long enough for opinion to mature very thoroughly, and for discussion to do its legitimate work, which is nearly the same thing as saying that the capital will never be changed. The magnificent piles of buildings now existing in Washington will never be abandoned or diverted from their present use.

The arguments, too, now used in favor of a change are daily losing their force, through the mere march of events. Distance is every day being diminished by improvements in the means of transportation. What with improvements in machinery, in roadway, in the building and furnishing of cars, in the eating and sleeping accommodation for passengers, it is most probable that even in the year 1900, people will look back with astonishment at the rudeness, slowness, and discomfort of our modes of locomotion. We may be sure corresponding improvements will take place in the transmission of intelligence. We can hardly improve on the electric telegraph, as regards speed, but we certainly can make it much more serviceable. It will assuredly one day largely if not entirely supersede the Post-office, and will spread its wires over the country in such a way as to bring nearly every house within its reach. In other words, it will literally do the work which Rumor did for so many ages, and which the newspaper now attempts. When that time comes, the question of accessibility as regards the capital will have lost all its importance, and will not be talked of. The talk of security from the attacks of invaders is already absurd, and will shortly become very ridiculous.

We venture to predict, however, that the importance of leaving the capital where it is will soon begin to grow in the popular mind, owing—apart from political reasons—to the steady improvement of the popular taste. The demand for the highest class of architecture increases among us constantly, and the means of providing it also. In proportion as it grows, the reluctance to abandon the great national monuments which already exist at Washington will increase, we may be sure. The highest results in art are only attainable by patient addition to existing acquisitions. The people really care very little where the capital stands, provided it be worthy of the nation; and so much has been done by time, money, labor, and tradition towards making Washington a worthy capital, that defective as it is, not very many will, when the question comes to be fairly considered, be in favor of beginning all over again in a new place.

The task to which anybody who is troubled in mind about the national capital should devote himself, is not the discovery of a location for a new one, but the improvement of the one we have got. Washington ought to be made, in its streets and buildings, a fitting expression of what is best in the national character, and, above all, of the national love of improvement. There is no reason why it should not be a model city, not only as regards architecture, but as regards cleanliness, paving, Police, lighting, sewerage, and transportation. In all that regards the government and regulation of great cities, the modern world is sadly behindhand, and no country of the modern world more than ours. The art of providing for the health and comfort of large masses of population is yet in its infancy among us, and experiments in this field are very difficult in cities governed by universal suffrage. In Washington, which may be said to exist for the benefit of the Federal Government, the nation might, without constitutional or other difficulties, create a city which travelers would come to study, and everybody who could would love to live in. How little has been done in this direction may be estimated from the fact that for eighty years the great avenue which connects the Executive Mansion with the halls of the Legislature has lain in the condition of a dirt road, undrained, unpaved, and unswept.

Balancing the Ledger.

Between Christmas Day and New Year's Day business men are in the retrospective mood. They scan closely the results of the twelvemonth which draws toward a close, and out of the present and the past evolve plans for the future. We fear that the balance to be struck will be, in the great majority of cases, unsatisfactory. The average degree of prosperity realized has not come up to men's expectations. Some branches of manufacturing industry have been carried on at a loss. The aggregate of trade may not have been much below that of recent years, but the profits derived from it have been comparatively inconsiderable. There are multitudes whose factories or stores or offices have barely covered current expenses. Crowds of speculators have come to grief, and there is a large class of investors in real estate who last Christmas fancied themselves on the high road to fortune, and now find themselves saddled with a load under which they stagger. These experiences are not confined to the East. Cincinnati and Chicago both tell of demands for an extension of accommodation on the part of firms of whose solvency no doubt is entertained.

Many of the lessons learned from ledgers during the present week will be unsatisfactory. But they afford no reason for despondency. They are formidable only when considered as results, without reference to causes, and they will not prove so unprofitable as they look, if we honestly accept the moral which they teach. The tendency is to forget that the country is in a transition state. We are yet passing from the unhealthy, but perhaps not disagreeable excitement, of an inflated and inconvertible currency, with the high prices which it engenders, and the intense activity begotten of the war, to the sober facts of a gold basis, involving a decline of prices and a general disposition to contract business engagements. We are beginning to discover that war entails a waste which detracts much from apparent prosperity, and that trade unnaturally stimulated, and prices forced unnaturally upward, produce habits which in quieter times are far from convenient. We have neither the excitement of continued inflation, nor the safety of a specie standard. Breadstuffs, cotton, produce, and many other things, have declined largely in prices, while rents and the general expenses of business remain for the most part unchanged. There has been no general readjustment—no thorough revision of prices and expenditures, founded upon a return to specie payments; and probably there could be none, simply because the decline of the premium on gold really does not in our case indicate any bona fide preparation for resumption on the part of the Government or the banks.

The wisest legislation cannot avert the inconveniences that are inseparable from the path we are treading. There can be no patent process for extinguishing the ills we suffer under, or for re-establishing the financial and business health we so ardently desire. We make wry faces at the physic to be taken, but take it we must, or there will be no lasting recovery. Expenditures must be scrutinized and reduced, extravagant habits corrected, and a determination formed, as far as possible to prepare for the change which will sooner or later be inevitable. The year we shall soon number with the past loses half its ugly features if we study its teachings aright; and the future will be divested of terror the moment we frankly recognize its requirements. Though we need not hope to see this country an exception to the laws which govern finance and trade, its peculiar advantages are sufficiently vast and varied to render tolerable the operation of causes which in Europe are productive of almost incalculable disaster. No other country in the world has the resources to draw upon of which this country may boast, or approaches it in elastic force. Embarrassments that would overwhelm other peoples, cripple us but for a day. With the vitality and energy of youth, we quickly cast off troubles which in the Old World endure for years. A consciousness of this ability and habit too often tends to produce the recklessness which we have most to dread. Nature is working for us all the time, but if we would profit by its bounty as largely and freely as we may, we must not be indifferent to the conditions regulating the use of its riches.

The Next Legislature.

It is with no desire to mar the enjoyment of any citizen this holiday season that we call attention to the public calamity which is so soon to follow. The Legislature of this State will meet in Albany on the 3d of January—a week from to-morrow—and, in all likelihood, will continue in session till the 1st of May, or perhaps longer. During that period, judging from past experience, not less than two thousand new laws will be inflicted upon the bewildered and long-suffering people of the Empire State. In addition to these, enactments or "strikes" will be proposed without number, which may or may not become law, according to the parsimony or liberality of the individuals or corporations to be affected in their negotiations with the "strikers." Of this class, a bill for the repeal of the Erie Directors' law will doubtless form one of the most conspicuous examples. Gov. HOFFMAN will have no need to follow the advice of the Brooklyn *Eagle* and recommend the introduction of such a bill. His friends in the Legislature will attend to that; but whether the repealing bill shall become a law or not, will depend, not on the Governor's recommendations, nor yet on the necessities of the next Presidential canvass, but on J. GOULD and FISK, Jr. If they visit Albany with a good bank account, Erie is safe; otherwise not. It is reported to have cost $200,000 to kill the bill last year, and the same amount will, we greatly fear, do it again.

It is already settled that the next Legislature, like the last one, is to be controlled by the Tammany Ring. The country Democrats made a feeble effort, soon after the November election, to secure the Speakership; but their claims were ignored, and their candidates snubbed, until they were all reduced to silence and subjection. Tammany, therefore, is once more master of the field. HITCHMAN is to be Speaker for the third time, and the Chairmanships of all the committees have already been parceled out in obedience to the orders of TWEED and SWEENY. It was but right that Tammany should have the organization of the Assembly, since it was the audacity of the Ring which gave the Democracy a majority in that body. But for its boldness in "counting out" the Republican elected from this City, the Democrats would not have had the Speakership.

Among the party schemes and jobs of a private nature which the "Ring" contemplates engineering through the Legislature this Winter, the following are understood to be the most prominent: First, a change in the Election law, by which the municipal election shall be held on a different day from the general election, so as to evade the operation of the Federal law for the prevention of frauds in the ballot. Second, certain amendments to the City charter which shall increase the patronage of the "Ring," and make its tenure of power more secure. Third, a redistricting of the State under the new census, so as to add, if possible, to the Democratic representation in Congress. Fourth, the grand scheme for the annexation of the lower part of Westchester County to this City, by which new fields will be opened for municipal jobbery and gigantic Ring speculations in real estate. Fifth, a bill to raise the fares on the City railroads to six cents for the benefit of those members of the Ring and their friends who are large stockholders in these roads. Sixth, the project for an underground steam railroad from the lower to the upper end of the island. The last is one of the few schemes contemplated by the Ring which, might, if properly carried out, tend to the benefit of the public. The reason that some measure of this kind has not before been adopted for the relief of New-York is, that members of the Ring were not admitted as leaders of the enterprise, and permitted to control the expenditure of the money and the manipulation of the stock. By a recent arrangement, however, they have become directors in the old "Central Underground" corporation, and a combination is to be made with the projectors of the "Arcade" and "Pneumatic" schemes, by which the route of the Central Underground charter is to be changed by the next Legislature, the bill is to be signed by the Governor, and the enterprise is to be pushed through under the patronage of the "Ring." The objectionable feature of the scheme, under its new auspices, is that an attempt will be made to get from the City a heavy appropriation toward the construction of the road, a large percentage of which appropriation will, of course, go into the pockets of the "Ring."

These are a few of the legislative jobs that are already known to be in contemplation by our Tammany politicians. Others will doubtless develop themselves as the session progresses. Thoughtful, thrifty citizens will watch our Albany law-makers for the next four months with as much anxiety as Paris watches the besiegers at her gates.

Public Opinion in Russia.

The social and political usages of Russia present one of the freshest and most interesting of the problems that occupy the minds of modern thinkers. With territories whose confines are lost amid the boundless steppes of Asia, with a population that represents all stages of national growth, from that of the Scythian nomads who overran the frontiers of ancient Rome, to that of the cultured and thoughtful political theorist of the present day; with social provisions that commend themselves to the most ardent communist, and with political forms that seem to approximate to Asiatic despotism, Russia is the historical enigma of modern times, the Sphinx who will solve her own riddle, but who will, nevertheless, see others self-destroyed in the vain attempt to solve it for themselves. For, let it be borne in mind, that while Russia has a great mission before her in Asia, she has one quite as great to work out in Europe—and this without taking into account the mere question of territorial expansion, which the logic of circumstances will sooner or later settle for her. Nor, need we specially exaggerate the importance of the political dream of her great nationalist party, whose Pan-Slavist crusade has so immediate a bearing upon the future of Austria, and of the populations on the Danube. To emerge from her territorial isolation will be only one step toward bringing the social revolution which her present Emperor has so vastly forwarded into immediate contact with the mediævalism of Europe. The absorption of all the Sclavonic peoples would only be another advance toward that great political future when the largest portion of two continents will be possessed by a people whose civilization had a different starting point from all the other nations around them, and whose theory of society rests upon a basis altogether dissimilar.

That the rural commune should remain what it now is, the true unit in the eye of the law, in Russia, may or may not be a permanent fact. Even now, indications are not wanting that the system is beginning to be felt a burden, and that the industrious members of the village communities are beginning to chafe under the inevitable dead weight of those whose ability or whose disposition to work is less pronounced. In what way the existing drawbacks of dividing the land on communistic principles is to be met, is a sufficiently interesting problem, but is not of so much immediate importance as the fact that such a division exists, and that the consistent tendency of political change in Russia is to place all ranks of the people on a common level in point of privilege and obligation, with the Czar only elevated above them. Only the other day we had the news of the Corporation of Moscow having been severely reprimanded for petitioning in favor of a free Press, religious toleration and other reforms. The accounts furnished by the latest mail files sufficiently explain the apparent irritation of the Government on this point. The National Press was, it appears, not quite so unanimous as was represented in the desirableness of a warlike policy on the Treaty of 1856. Highly influential journals, such as the *Golos* and the Moscow *Gazette*, both of whom wield an influence little understood out of Russia, pointed out the financial weakness which would hamper the country in an European struggle. Russian tax-payers, it was flatly declared, could not bear any extraordinary pressure, without wide-spread ruin following in its train. The unlimited circulation of paper money was likewise adverted to as a present evil, and one which any foreign complications would immensely enhance. Such opinions are instructive, as showing that the Press in Russia enjoys already a tolerable amount of freedom, and as manifesting also the power of that public opinion whose growth almost keeps pace with the increasing strength of the Executive. These powers are, under the present relations of political parties in Russia, of a kind to balance each other, not to tend toward active conflict. In this they differ from the same influences in all other European States, and it is precisely this alliance between the Throne and all the social and political aspirations of the thinking class of the Russian people that properly constitutes the greatness of its coming influence and the magnitude of its ultimate destiny.

The Water Supply.

Our citizens are so accustomed to announcements relating to an apprehended scarcity of water, that a statement now in circulation will probably attract less attention than it deserves. The report is that according to present appearances the sources on which the Croton supply depends do not promise favorably for the Summer. The next five months may alter the condition of things. There is yet time enough for snow and rain that will insure abundance instead of scarcity. But we cannot prudently ignore the fact that the present is an exceptional season so far as ordinary supplies of water are concerned, and that throughout the district which feeds the Croton, there is an unprecedented exhaustion of wells and springs. Correspondents informs us of whole neighborhoods in which four wells out of five are now dry—the remainder being not far removed from the same condition. Farmers drive their cattle to the brooks, many of which are full. The latter circumstance obviates all fear as to the immediate supply of Croton; but the general failure of springs suggests grave doubts as to its duration. How it happens that the streams are full while the wells are dry, we leave others to explain. One correspondent suggests that the long-continued drouth of last Summer, attended as it was with excessive heat, so baked the earth that the rain which subsequently fell penetrated to only a short depth. It filled the streams, but did not replenish the springs. And now the ground is frozen so hard that, were rain to fall, it would pass away in a similar manner.

The matter is a serious one to the country people, and by-and-by it may be equally serious for this City. If the proper authorities can devote a little time to the subject, they may find it expedient to devise plans which shall lessen the consumption of Croton before the promise of scarcity is actually fulfilled. It is idle, we fear, to enjoin greater economy in the domestic use of water. The thoughtlessness which is the parent of waste cannot be checked by newspaper admonition. A more effectual method will be the compulsory introduction of water from the North and East Rivers for manufacturing and similar purposes, and also for sprinkling the streets, when that process again becomes necessary.

MINOR TOPICS.

We beg leave to offer the suggestion to storekeepers whether the practice of giving ladies into custody on the charge of theft is not being carried a great deal too far. Presently ladies will be afraid to enter one particular store, where several arrests have occurred; and other inconveniences may be entailed in the shape of actions for damages. The case of Mrs. PHELPS was a very disgraceful one; and those of two other ladies, whose names we suppress from a desire to cause them as little annoyance as possible, were quite as bad. One of them had bought a bottle of oil, and was waiting to pay for it, when an attendant in the store deliberately gave her into custody for stealing it. If this sort of raid is to be made upon customers, it will not be safe for people to go within half a mile of this store. No discretion whatever seems to have been exercised in bringing these charges—in fact nothing was exercised but dense stupidity. We cannot suppose that the storekeepers whose names have occurred in connection with these outrages will approve of the idiotic conduct of their assistants; it is far more probable that they will take ster measures to prevent the repetition of the "mistakes" which occurred last week.

The war news this morning furnishes us with a dismal picture of France at this season of "peace and good-will." At Lyons a procession of women in mourning walked through the streets, the tocsin was sounded, and "frantic appeals" were made to the people. The reported occupation of Nuits by the Germans (which is not confirmed) was the cause of this manifestation of feeling. Accounts from Bordeaux state that the Germans had won a victory before Nuits, but were obliged to retreat under a renewed attack the following morning (the 19th). The commander of the National Guard at Lyons was shot by the populace in a fit of rage. The reports from Gen. FAIDHERBE's army are directly contradictory, one account alleging that he has gained a victory, another that he has been defeated—and both apparently referring to the same engagement. The general character of the news shows that the people in France are becoming more and more determined in their resistance, and that BISMARCK's favorite forces of "blood and iron" are as yet far from being spent.

We learn by telegram today that the conference on the Eastern question will open on the 3d of January. It is quite possible that the meeting may be a failure from the start, owing to some awkward question respecting the admission of France. If the conference should actually be held, its proceedings will be waited for with the utmost interest, since upon them depends the question of peace or war between all the leading Powers of Europe not already engaged in hostilities. The signs are numerous that Russia assented to a conference rather in deference to public opinion, than from any amicable designs, and consequently that it will leave the Eastern difficulty pretty much where it found it. Diplomacy may do something, but if the Russian Government has determined upon war, mere talk will count for very little. At present there is too much reason to believe that the dawn of general peace is far distant.

The rather curious statement is made that Queen VICTORIA has sent her congratulations to the King of Prussia on his acceptance of the title of Emperor of Germany. This seems to be a case of "taking time by the forelock." All Germany has not yet been heard on the subject, although a good many editors and professors have been sent to prison for protesting against the proposed change, and calling loudly for peace. No one has doubted where Queen VICTORIA's sympathies have been, and, perhaps, all things considered, it is not very surprising that she should be found at this moment in opposition to the public opinion of the country over which she rules. Perhaps the report, which will be found among our foreign news, this morning, is nothing more than one of the rumors floating about Versailles.

The Boston *Journal* publishes a very sensible article on political corruption. It deplores the fact that in many respects the public business of the country is wretchedly transacted, and that a low standard of service in every department is established. It also points out that the reforms now talked of will not correct the evil, and that, indeed, nothing will repair it short of a great change in the sentiment of the people on the subject. It is all their fault, says our contemporary, "and in this respect, that they do not bring their real stock of honesty and principle to bear actively and constantly upon the political department of our American life." The writer goes on to say that the desired change will be witnessed some day, and the Press and the Pulpit ought to work hard to prepare for it. All this is very good. But our Boston friend will please observe that the Pulpit is at present absolutely silent on the subject, and that in this City "Boss TWEED" owns the Press, with the exception of a few journals, which could be counted on the fingers of one hand. The public are very much disposed to "let things take their course," and thus the new era which our contemporary hopes for seems likely to arrive simultaneously with the Greek Kalends.

This is a very bad year in which to prepare almanacs and other annuals containing information relating to politics. ZADKIEL himself is as near the mark as some of the sober manuals which profess to deal only with facts. The *Almanack de Gotha*, which likes to be accurate, can only tell us that pending the occupation of a part of France by the German troops, one section of the Government is at Paris and the other at Tours. Events march too rapidly in these days for the compilers of almanacs. Before 1871 is half over, we may not only find the almanacs out of date, but a new map of Europe absolutely necessary to enable us to recollect how the old landmarks have been readjusted.

Preachers and writers who have entreated people not to get drunk on New-Year's Day forgot to say anything about Christmas. And yet any one who had occasion to be in the streets at a late hour last night, or an early hour this morning, must have seen much reason for preaching temperance—provided it could have done any good. On an average, about one man in every four was more or less under the influence of liquor. It is the way some people have of making merry. In what condition the Police force happened to be was not to be ascertained, since very few policemen appeared to be out of doors. No doubt they had to attend to their own affairs, and found no time to look after the duties which custom assigns to them.

At a time of year when everybody's hardships stand a chance of attracting notice, perhaps some one will think of the poor car-driver. He is eminently a case for that excellent man, Mr. HENRY BERGH. The winds lately seem to have out like whips of steel, and their sharpness does not, by any means, diminish after most people are in bed and asleep. Is it not rather hard to stick a man on the front platform of a car without even a stool to sit upon, and oblige him to remain there from twelve to fifteen hours at a stretch? That is the lot of most of the City car-drivers. The conductors are a little better off, for now and then they can stand for a few moments inside the car—and small blame to them for it. The drivers ought to be changed every four or six hours, and, by a rearrangement of their time, this could very easily be managed. Horses get rest, and there is no obvious reason why a man should be treated worse than a horse—unless he ill-uses the horse, as many of Mr. BERGH's acquaintance are in the habit of doing.

AMUSEMENTS.

Theatrical and Musical.

CHRISTMAS MATINEES.

In addition to the regular afternoon performances given weekly and twice a week at almost all local theatres, special matinées are to occur at many places of amusement today. At Booth's there will be an additional representation of "Rip Van Winkle." At the Grand Opera-house "Les Brigands" will be sung. At the Olympic Mr. FOX will delight the juveniles in "Wee Willie Winkie." The splendors of "The Black Crook" will be unfolded twice, afternoon and evening. At the Fifth-avenue, "Saratoga" will be shown by day. At Lina Edwin's, "Little Jack Sheppard" and "Fra Diavolo" will be the subject of the extra entertainment. At Wood's Museum, two morning exhibitions, besides the regular rendering of "Paris," are promised. As for the New-York Circus, matinées are to be attended at that place daily throughout the week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TO-NIGHT.

At Wallack's, this evening, "Coquettes" will be acted for the last time this season. "Les Brigands" resumes its place on the bills of the Grand Opera-house. Elsewhere the programmes will be unaltered.

ORATORIO AT STEINWAY HALL.

"The Messiah" will be sung this evening at Steinway Hall. Dr. PECH will conduct, the artists being Misses MARIA BRAINERD and C. V. HUTCHINGS, and Messrs. GEORGE SIMPSON and JOSIAH JEWETT. The choruses will be done by the New-York Harmonic Society.

READINGS AND RECITATIONS.

A second reading by Miss GLYN is promised for Wednesday evening. The lady has chosen "Macbeth" for her subject....A second and final recitation by Master GOLDSMITH was given by that little prodigy at Chickering's Rooms on Friday last. The memory of the lad is really marvelous, but the intelligence his interpretation of most difficult selections displays, and the power of expression he possesses, are also worthy of notice. It is to be hoped that no pains will be spared to develop the exceptional ability shown by him at his very early period in life.

OBITUARY.

Miss Fannie Stockton.

Miss FANNIE STOCKTON, a lady well known to frequenters of the theatre and concert-room, died in this City on Saturday. A few years ago she sung at the Academy in Italian Opera, and afterward she was heard in English Opera. Miss STOCKTON's culture as a musician made her a valuable member of the dramatic profession, and her personal qualities won for her great private esteem.

The Election in West Virginia—The Official Vote.

We find in the Wheeling *Intelligencer* of Saturday last a statement of the official vote for Governor and three members of Congress in West Virginia in October last. The vote of Wyoming County was thrown out by the Supervisors for some unexplained reason; but, counting that, the whole vote for Governor was 56,030—nearly 7,000 more than the largest vote ever cast in the State before. This vote was divided as follows: STEVENSON, Republican, 26,940; JACOB, Democrat, 29,090; Democratic majority, 2,150. The vote for Congressmen, in detail, was as follows:

Dist.		
1.	Davis, Democrat	11,836
	Goff, Republican	12,569
	Democratic majority	1,267
2.	McGrew, Republican	9,011
	Downey, Democrat	8,098
	Republican majority	913
3.	Hereford, Democrat	8,722
	Witcher, Republican	7,169
	Democratic majority	1,553
Aggregate vote for Congressmen		55,413
Democratic majority		1,917

TELEGRAMS.

Destruction of the Spottswood Hotel in Richmond by Fire.

Seven Persons Known to Have Been Burned to Death.

FIVE OR SIX OTHERS MISSING.

A Fearful Scene of Panic and Dismay Among the Guests.

The Latest Aspect of the European Difficulties.

TERRIBLE FIRE AT RICHMOND.

The Spottswood Hotel Burned to the Ground—The Guests Roused From Sleep—A Fearful Scene of Panic and Dismay—Several Persons Known to Have Perished, and Others Still Missing—Heavy Pecuniary Losses.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 25.—Last night was the coldest for thirteen years. The ground was covered with hard frozen snow, and the thermometer indicated 5°.

At 2¼ o'clock this morning, just as the porter had commenced waking passengers for the southern train, the Spottswood Hotel was discovered to be on fire on the lower floor. An effort was immediately made to wake the guests, and the scene became indescribable. Men were rushing about trying to save their baggage, and the women, nearly naked and barefooted, fleeing into the snow-covered streets. The steam-engines were promptly on hand, but the water being frozen it was some time before it could be thrown on the building. In twenty minutes the flames spread to such an extent that escape by the staircase was cut off. The guests then commenced leaping from the windows. P. P. CLARKE, of Philadelphia, the steward of the hotel, leaped from the third story, receiving fatal injuries. The most fearful scene of the disaster was the appearance of Mrs. EMILY CORNELIUS, of Baltimore, the housekeeper, at the window in the fifth story, with one or two other ladies, screaming for help. The fire companies' ladders were put up, but failed by two stories to reach the window. While the firemen were endeavoring to lengthen the ladders, the crying women disappeared in the thick smoke and were lost, the room brightening up a moment after with the flames. Up to noon today the only persons burned whose names are known are: ERASMUS ROSS, a clerk of Libby Prison during the war; Mrs. EMILY CORNELIUS, the housekeeper, who leaves a family in Baltimore; SAMUEL W. ROBINSON, a clerk with EUKER & BRO., and SAMUEL HINES, a clerk with MELHISER & CO.

The register of the hotel was consumed, and it is impossible to give the names of strangers who may be lost. Several are believed to have perished, as there are about a dozen unclaimed trunks belonging to persons from New-York and other Northern cities. It is a notable fact that the only building on the block that escaped the flames is the corner store that stopped the conflagration at the time of the evacuation of Richmond by the Confederate troops. The weather was so intensely cold that the telegraph wires in front of the burning buildings were covered with ice, and the fire steamers were encased in ice an inch thick. Among the remarkable escapes was that of C. SHEFTER, attached to the office of the State Printer, who was in the fourth story, and escaped by dropping from window cornice to window cornice until he reached the ground. He was badly burned however. The correspondent of the New-York *Herald* had a narrow escape. The guests lost all their clothing, and the ladies had to walk barefoot over the snow to places of shelter. The total loss by fire is $300,000. The insurance is mostly by Northern companies.

SAMUEL HINES, clerk, and SAMUEL ROBINSON, boarder, and Mrs. EMILY CORNELIUS, the housekeeper at the hotel, were burned to death. ERASMUS ROSS, clerk of the Libby Prison during the war, is missing, and is supposed to have been burned. The business houses destroyed were Messrs. BRANCH & CURRANT's crockery store, Adams Express Company's office, HOWE's machine store, and other smaller stores.

The National Insurance Company, of Baltimore, loses $8,000, and the Continental, of New-York, $3,000. All the goods ready for delivery in the cellar of the Southern Express Company were destroyed. The Company's money safes are buried in the ruins. An incident of the fire was the appearance of a man at one of the upper windows, paralyzed by fear, who sat tearing paper into small pieces and throwing them out of the window till he fell back into the flames.

Among those who had very narrow escapes were M. MAILLEFERT, of New-York, engineer of the James River obstructions; S. A. PEARCE, of Columbia, S. C., private secretary of Senator SPRAGUE, and Mrs. E. MAGILL, proprietress of the theatre. The De Lave Troupe lost their baggage. The hotel register was found to-night, and there are only six strangers not accounted for. It is probable some of the citizens have taken some of them to their houses. The name of the housekeeper burned was Mrs. EMILY KENNEARLY. The following are the names of the missing strangers: J. H. WILCOX, of Lynchburg; N. BEIMSTEIN, of Washington; A. LEIL, of Tampa, Florida; GEORGE and E. H. ANDREWS, of Syracuse, N. Y.; H. G. KROTTE, of New-York, and JOHN H. HOLMAN, Jr., of Jackson, Tenn.

LATER.

RICHMOND, Dec. 25.—The following are additional names of persons who are known to have been burned to death in the Spottswood Hotel: H. A. THOMAS, agent for the panorama of the Pilgrim's Progress; W. H. PACE, of Danville, Va., United States mail agent, and J. B. FARISS, messenger of the Southern Express Company. The Spottswood Hotel was valued at $140,000, and insured in Northern companies, represented by D. N. WALKER, for $60,000. Messrs. BRANCH & CURRANT were insured in the North British and Mercantile for $5,000. Messrs. SUBTELL, LUCK & CO., proprietors of the Spottswood, had their furniture insured for $20,000, and their wines and carpets for $7,000, in the North British Company.

THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR.

Conflicting Statements Regarding the Battle Near Amiens—General Aspect of Operations in the North.

CHERBOURG, Dec. 23.—Gen. FAIDHERBE fought victoriously with the enemy at Pont Noyelles. The battle commenced at 11 in the morning and ended at 6 P. M.

OTHER ACCOUNTS.

AMIENS, Dec. 24.—A German victory is reported at Halla (?) south-west of this city, over the Army of the North, 60,000 strong. The Germans carried several villages by storm, and took 1,000 prisoners.

LONDON, Dec. 24—Noon.—Gen. FAIDHERBE, with an army of 60,000 men, was routed by MANTEUFFEL, yesterday, near Amiens. Two Prussian divisions only were engaged.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 23.—The *Echo du Nord* says the German garrisons at Rheims and Chalons have been largely increased, owing to the threatening attitude of the Army of the North. Chalons, refusing to pay the requisitions demanded by the invaders, leading citizens have been arrested and sent to Germany as hostages.

LILLE, HAVRE AND DIEPPE.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—The port of Honfleur has been opened again to commerce. Dieppe and Fecamp are still under strict blockade.

LILLE, Dec. 24.—Cannonading has been heard since Thursday in the direction of Noyon. The Prussians are in the vicinity of Verviens. They have blown up a bridge over the Aire.

The French Official Report of the Battle of Nuits—A Panic in Lyons after the Battle—A Commander of the National Guard Shot—Tours Reoccupied by the Germans.

BORDEAUX, Dec. 24.—The official report of the battle at Nuits on the 18th shows that Gen. GREMER was attacked by 24,000 Prussians, with a heavy force of artillery. The French had only 10,000 men, who, after fighting many hours, retreated a quarter of a mile from the town. The Germans lost more than 500 killed and wounded, among them Duke WILLIAM, of Baden, and several Colonels. The peasants fought bravely by the side of the regular troops. Reinforcements came up the next morning, and the Germans retreated in such haste that the prisoners they had taken the day before escaped. The French loss was 1,200 killed and wounded.

THE DISTURBANCES IN LYONS.

LYONS, Dec. 20, via LONDON, Dec. 24.—The occupation of Nuits by the enemy caused a panic here. Meetings were held at which the orators made frantic appeals to the multitude. The tocsin was sounded; the National and Mobile Guards mustered, and the Delegations assembled. A procession of women in mourning passed through the streets. The "Red" Republicans gathered in large numbers before the Hotel de Ville and clamored for vengeance. Gen. ARNAUD, Commander of the National Guards, refused them admission to the hall. He was assailed and his sword broken, and in self-defense he discharged his revolver at his assailants. The mob then rushed upon and overpowered him, and after a mock trial he was condemned to death and shot a few minutes after receiving his sentence. The troops remained passive during the disorders.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—It is said that the municipality of Lyons has expressed a wish that GARIBALDI be made a member of the Government of National Defense.

TOURS AND THE LOIRE.

CHERBOURG, Dec. 23.—The troops in and around this port have left for the front, for the purpose of uniting with the army under Gen. CHAUZY. The Germans have again entered Tours, meeting with no opposition.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—The Nineteenth Prussian Division refused to occupy Tours, though the Mayor requested the General commanding to do so. The Prussians contented themselves with destroying the railway running through the city, and encamping in the suburbs.

AID FOR THE PRISONERS.

The Empress EUGENIE is organizing a fund for the French prisoners. She is negotiating for the use of the Drury-lane Theatre for a benefit performance.

The Secret Franco-Prussian Treaty—Important Evidence Against M. Benedetti.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The recent statement of M. BENEDETTI, late French Minister at Berlin, published in the London *Standard*, regarding the authenticity of the famous secret treaty, and the part he had in the same, renders the opinion of Mr. BANCROFT on the subject very interesting. Concerning this notable matter, he wrote to Secretary FISH as follows:

AMERICAN LEGATION, BERLIN, July 27, 1870.

SIR: Today I have to send you an authentic copy of one of the most remarkable documents ever framed by a European statesman. Some time ago (the exact date is uncertain) M. BENEDETTI, the French Ambassador, proposed to Count BISMARCK, at a time when France was in profound peace with England and with Belgium, to enter into an offensive and defensive alliance for the purpose of gaining the consent of France for the union of Germany on the one side, and the consent of Germany to the annexation of Belgium and Luxembourg to France on the other. *You may rely implicitly on the authenticity of the document of which I inclose a copy, for I have seen the original, in the handwriting of Benedetti, which handwriting is very well known to me.* As an expression of contempt for the restraints of international law, the document may rank with the late declaration of war by the Emperor against Prussia; but it has, moreover, the character of a defiance of Great Britain.

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I remain, Sir, yours sincerely,
GEORGE BANCROFT.

HAMILTON FISH, Esq., Secretary of State, &c.

GENERAL EUROPEAN NEWS.

The First Meeting of the Eastern Conference—Prussia and Luxembourg—Strict Neutrality the Only Security for the Grand Duchy.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The first meeting of the Conference on the Eastern question is fixed for the 3d of January, Prince CHARLES, of Roumania, calls the attention of the Powers to the fact that his position as settled by the Treaty of Paris is no longer tenable.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—The Berlin *Gazette* denies that there is any parallel between the demand of Russia in regard to the Black Sea and the warning given by Prussia as to the position of Luxembourg. Count BISMARCK is true to the Treaty of 1866. He simply repeats what he has ever insisted on, that the security of the independence of Luxembourg is based solely on its religious adherence to neutrality. Prussia must interfere if her troops are assailed while passing through Luxembourg.

Passage of the Italian Capital Bill—Adjournment of the Chambers—Queen Victoria to King William — The Eclipse—Cold in Northern Europe.

FLORENCE, Dec. 23.—The Chamber of Deputies have passed, by a vote of 192 yeas to 18 nays, the bill providing for the removal of the capital from Florence to Rome within six months. A resolution expressing the gratitude of the citizens of Florence to the Romans for their patriotism during the siege of the city, was adopted. The Chamber then adjourned to meet on Jan. 16.

VERSAILLES, Dec. 23.—The congratulations of Queen VICTORIA to the King of Prussia on his acceptance of the title of Emperor of Germany, were presented to His Majesty today by Secretary ODO RUSSELL.

CADIZ, Dec. 23.—The observations of the eclipse were successful here. Good photographs of the corona were obtained.

SYRACUSE, Sicily, Dec. 22, via LONDON.—Profs. PIERCE and LOCKYER report that the observations taken by them of the eclipse were imperfect, in consequence of unfavorable weather; but the results obtained last year in America were confirmed.

ANTWERP, Dec. 24.—The port is overcrowded with shipping, and vessels are refused admission. The river is freezing.

HAMBURG, Dec. 24.—The Elbe is filled with ice, and navigation is seriously interrupted.

THE PACIFIC COAST.

Fire on a Whaling Vessel—Invalids in Search of Health—New Fruit and Vegetables in the Market—Fine Weather at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—The whale-ship *John Howland* caught fire this morning. The flames were extinguished after the wood-work on deck was burned....A number of invalids have arrived here from the East, seeking a restoration of health, considering the climate of the southern counties of California more equable than that of Florida....Oranges, lemons, grapes, straw berries, tomatoes, new potatoes of all varieties (second crop), garden vegetables and flowers are abundant in the market....Business will be suspended practically for the next nine days. ....The weather is beautiful. The thermometer, at 8 P. M., today, marked 52°. Almost the entire population is on the streets this evening.

Sentence of Pacific Railroad Robbers—Death of a Well-Known Citizen.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—The Central Pacific Railroad robbers, tried at Washoe City, were sentenced to the following terms of imprisonment respectively: CHIPMAN, 18 years; PARSONS, 20; COCKERELL, 22, and SQUIRES, 23 years and 6 months....WALKER POORE, nephew of BEN PERLEY POORE, of Massachusetts, for many years a resident of this city, died suddenly this afternoon.

Pork Statistics.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 25.—The Secretary of the Merchants' Exchange has received the following statistics of hog-packing in the West: Packed at St. Louis this year, 151,934; last year, 179,538; at Chicago this year, 357,945; last year, 337,656; at Cincinnati, 238,454 against 275,240; at Louisville, 219,274 against 179,000; at Milwaukee, 79,000 against 85,000; at Indianapolis, 65,994 this year.

LOST AT SEA.

Wreck of the Schooner Georgia Todd—Four Persons Drowned and Four Rescued.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—By the arrival at this port of the British ship *Euxine*, the following information is obtained concerning the loss of the American schooner *Georgia Todd*. The schooner belonged to Calais, Me., was commanded by Capt. HILL, and was bound from St. Stephen, N. B., for Havana, with a cargo of lumber. On the 16th, in a gale, she sprung a leak, and soon filled, notwithstanding the efforts of the crew to keep her free. She finally went over on her side, throwing all on board, including Capt. HILL's wife, into the sea. Four of them succeeded in regaining the wreck and making themselves fast to it, but the others were drowned. Subsequently the *Euxine* bore down upon the wreck, took off those who were clinging to it, and brought them to this port. The following are the names of the lost: Mrs. HILL, the Captain's wife; ALFRED PRICE, of St. Stephen, mate; JOHN KNIGHT, of Calais, Me., second mate; and JAMES KENNEDY, of St. Stephen, steward.

THE WEST.

Fire at Chicago—The Weather in Illinois An Ice Gorge in the River at St. Louis.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—The old Court-house took fire last night, and was damaged to the extent of $5,000 or $6,000. Excitement and alarm prevailed for a time among the prisoners in the jail, which is in the basement, but none were injured.... The sales of real estate in this city for the past year aggregate $37,558,455, against $40,478,153 in 1869....The Directors of the Board of Trade yesterday passed a resolution to assume the lease and expenditures of the new hall recently completed for their Open Board of Trade. The latter is a separate organization and is dissolved.... Snow fell to the depth of two or three inches today. The thermometer is now only a little above zero....Christmas was generally observed in the churches today, but to-morrow will be recognized as a holiday. The banks, Board of Trade, Post-office, and business generally will be suspended.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—The ice gorged above the bridge piers last night, and there is now an open space of water below, giving ferry-boats a free transit from shore to shore, greatly accommodating travel and transportation of freight. The weather is moderating, and there are indications of a speedy thaw and general break-up of the ice, and resumption of navigation. Several hundred persons crossed the river on the ice today.

Murder of a Boy—A Burglar Sent to Prison.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—A boy named GEORGE H. FAREY was fatally shot in the temple today by FRANK MCGARRIGAN, who has been arrested.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 25.—In the Superior Court yesterday, CHARLES WILLIAMS, the leader of a gang of burglars who robbed Col. E. H. BALL, of Hollyoke, of $7,000 in Government bonds, about a year ago, was sentenced to eleven years in the State Prison.

The Steamers Aries and Erie.

CAPE MAY, Dec. 25.—The steamer *Aries* got off at 9 this morning. None of her cargo was taken out. The steamer *Erie*, from Philadelphia for Boston, is ashore on Hereford Bar.

Fire at Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 25.—Two small frame buildings, in the fort, were destroyed by fire, last night. The wind was very high, and but for the exertion of the Fire Department much vaulable property would have been destroyed.

The Population of New-Jersey.

The population of New-Jersey, according to figures compiled from the official returns in the Marshal's office at Salem, is 906,112, an increase of 234,088 over 1860—about 34.8 per cent.—as follows:

	1870.	1860.
Cumberland	34,905	22,606
Cape May	8,524	7,120
Atlantic	14,054	11,782
Gloucester	21,663	18,444
Salem	23,966	22,485
Camden	46,960	34,457
Burlington	53,675	49,730
Monmouth	46,303	39,345
Mercer	46,455	37,411
Ocean	13,494	11,176
Somerset	23,134	22,097
Hunterdon	36,071	33,654
Middlesex	45,060	34,810
Union	40,573	27,780
Warren	34,237	28,434
Morris	34,762	34,079
Sussex	23,504	22,845
Passaic	46,485	29,013
Bergen	30,120	21,618
Hudson	129,726	62,717
Essex	144,447	98,876
Total	906,112	672,024

The greatest gain is in that portion of the State adjacent to New-York—Hudson increasing 106.8 per cent.; Passaic, 60.2; Essex, 46.1; Union, 46; Bergen, 39.3. Of the counties adjacent to Philadelphia, Cumberland, which includes the new settlement of Vineland, has increased 54.4 per cent.; Camden, 36; Cape May, 19.5; Atlantic, 19.2; and Gloucester, 17.4. In the central part of the State, Middlesex County has increased 29.4 per cent.; Mercer, (in which the State capital, Trenton, is situated,) 24.2; Ocean, 20.7, and Monmouth, 17.7. Morris County increases 23.3 per cent., and Warren 20.7. Of the other counties, Burlington only increases 7.9 per cent.; Salem, 6.7; Somerset, 4.9; and Hunterdon, 7.2; while Sussex shows a decline of 1.4 per cent. Of the Congressional Districts, the First increases 28.3 per cent.; the Second, 16.9; the Third, 22.1; the Fourth, 33.5; and the Fifth, (Hudson County and Newark City,) 62.6. The only counties in the State that maintain the average increase (34.8) are Hudson, Passaic, Essex, Union, Bergen, Cumberland and Camden. Cumberland takes the lead in the agricultural counties.

The various counties ranked as follows, in the order of their population in 1860: Essex first, Hudson second, Burlington third, Monmouth fourth, Mercer fifth, Middlesex sixth, Morris seventh, Camden eighth, Hunterdon ninth, Passaic tenth, Warren eleventh, Union twelfth, Sussex thirteenth, Cumberland fourteenth, Salem fifteenth, Somerset sixteenth, Bergen seventeenth, Gloucester eighteenth, Atlantic nineteenth, Ocean twentieth, Cape May twenty-first.

In 1870 these counties rank thus: Essex first, Hudson second, Burlington third, Passaic fourth, Mercer fifth, Camden sixth, Middlesex seventh, Monmouth eighth, Morris ninth, Union tenth, Hunterdon eleventh, Cumberland twelfth, Warren thirteenth, Bergen fourteenth, Salem fifteenth, Sussex sixteenth, Somerset seventeenth, Gloucester eighteenth, Atlantic nineteenth, Ocean twentieth, Cape May twenty-first.

The Legislature of the State, which meets next month, will be required to redistrict the State for sixty members of the House of Assembly—each county to have at least one representative. This will give about 15,000 population to a member. The representation of most of the counties will remain as at present—changes being made only in Essex and Union, which will gain one, and in Hudson, which will gain two; Gloucester, Sussex, Hunterdon and Warren each losing one. Politically, the Republicans lose one and the Democrats three from their present representation, and the Republicans having the redistricting under their control, hope to arrange the districts so as to secure all of them in the counties which increase their representation. Judging from the last election, the Republicans, by judicious management, should be able to secure from thirty five to forty members of the Assembly, thus giving them a clear majority. The formation of proposed new counties may, however, interfere with this to some extent.

The following is the population of the leading places of the State—Newark City being the thirteenth city in the Union:

Newark	105,542	Bloomfield	4,851
Jersey City	82,286	Salem	4,572
Paterson	33,003	South Amboy	4,536
Trenton	22,920	Acquackanonck	4,406
Elizabeth	20,974	East Orange	4,370
Hoboken	20,314	Plainfield	4,250
Camden	20,122	Freehold	4,240
New-Brunswick	15,069	Mount Holly	4,025
Orange	9,356	Lambertville	3,845
Gloucester City	8,437	Chatham	3,718
Newton, Camden Co.	8,437	Woodbridge	3,717
Hackensack	8,048	Belleville	3,676
Vineland	7,285	Egg Harbor	3,589
Bridgeton	6,830	Boonton	3,456
Rockaway	6,445	Clinton	3,184
Rahway	6,296	Tom's River	3,062
Long Branch	6,202	South Orange	2,970
Melville	6,140	Perth Amboy	2,862
Bordentown	6,053	Montclair	2,852
Philipsburg	5,960	Princeton	2,800
Somerville	5,894	Newton, Sussex	2,401
Burlington	5,815	Hackettstown	2,202
Morristown	5,684	Red Bank	2,088
Dover	5,111	Woodbury	1,965
Middletown	4,658	Cape May	1,398

WASHINGTON.

True Significance of the Recent Debate in the Senate—Mr. Sumner's Present Position—The Sacrilege of Surratt—Lincoln Hall Not to be Desecrated—Skating on the Potomac—The Deficiency Bill.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—There seems to be considerable misapprehension in the public mind as to the character of the debate in the Senate last week, and also in regard to the attitude in which it has left Mr. SUMNER. The main point at issue now has really no direct relation to the San Domingo question. The merits or demerits of that proposition are laid aside for the time being, and the question discussed here now is this: "Shall Mr. SUMNER, after having uttered such offensive language in regard to the President, and after having offered an affront to the Senate itself, be permitted to remain at the head of the Foreign Relations Committee?" Going back to the debate itself, it should be said that it was the intention of the friends of the resolutions, not all of them friends of annexation either, to take no part in the debate, but to permit the other side to do all the talking, and then quietly vote the resolutions through. Even Mr. MORTON, who wanted to reply to the argument of Mr. SUMNER's speech, supposing there would be argument in it, finally consented to forego his speech with this purpose in view. This agreement would have been kept, and no Senator of the other side would have said a word but for the extraordinary personality of Mr. SUMNER's remarks. It was not until late at night that such men as EDMUNDS and CONKLING became aroused, and determined that such language as Mr. SUMNER had uttered should not receive the tacit indorsement of the Senate by their failure to rebuke it. The phase of the matter now most serious is therefore entirely personal. The merits of the question of annexation are not involved. Mr. SUMNER, or any other member of the Senate, has a perfect right to oppose annexation without feeling the displeasure of the Administration; but no Senator, not even Mr. SUMNER, can place himself in an attitude of bitter personal hostility to the head of the Administration, and then insist on retaining a position whose influence is as vital to its success as is that of a Cabinet officer. Mr. SUMNER gives out that he is still an Administration man; and some of his friends are intimating that, if a caucus is called, he will disclaim any intention of being personal in his remarks, and that thus smoothed over he will be allowed to remain in his position; but in this they are mistaken. If there is any backbone left in the Senate, Mr. SUMNER can only remain where he is by disavowing in open Senate his offensive remarks as fully and as openly as he uttered them. A caucus explanation won't do. The whole question is now reduced to a serious personal quarrel. Mr. SUMNER has placed himself in a position where it is impossible for the President to have any intercourse with him, even through the Secretary of State as intermediary. If he appreciates the position, he will relieve the situation of all embarrassment by voluntary retirement, otherwise the Senate will have an unpleasant but imperative duty to perform. The President views the matter with entire calmness. Whatever he says to his visitors on the subject is devoid of passion or bitterness. He thinks that as the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate is the sole medium through which all our dealings with foreign nations must pass for judgment and review, its head should be a man with whom the Administration can be on terms of friendly intercourse. The onus of relieving the matter of all difficulty is, therefore, entirely upon Mr. SUMNER.

SURRATT AND LINCOLN HALL.

It was announced here in the local papers of Saturday last that JOHN H. SURRATT would repeat his story of the assassination of President LINCOLN, which he calls a lecture, in Lincoln Hall, on Friday evening next. Lincoln Hall is the lecture-room of the Young Men's Christian Association, and the building is but a short distance from the scene of the tragic culmination of the foul plot of abduction, with which, if not with the scheme to assassinate, SURRATT, as he himself boasts, was connected. The Hall was dedicated with religious services, and the speeches contained fitting allusions to the great man whose name was given to the Hall. The indignation of all patriotic people was aroused, to think that that Hall, of all others, should be chosen for the recital, or that it should be rented for such a purpose. If SURRATT wanted to "lecture" in Washington nobody cared, only that it should not be in Lincoln Hall. A protest was made to the trustees of the Association accordingly, who promptly interfered, and the confessed spy and conspirator must tell his boasting tale of villainy in some other building.

ICE ON THE POTOMAC.

The Potomac River is closed to navigation, and is covered with ice thick enough to bear the skaters, hundreds of whom are availing themselves of an opportunity very unusual at Christmas time.

DEFICIENCY BILL.

The items of the Deficiency bill for the current year, as transmitted to the Appropriation Committee by Secretary BOUTWELL, are as follows: State Department, $2,005 09; Treasury, $585,198 70; Interior, $37,160; War, $1,921,894 09; Navy, $1,344,345 50; Department of Justice, $20,200; total, $3,850,803 38.

SOCIAL DUTIES OF THE LADIES OF THE CABINET.

It is whispered in social circles that the ladies of the Cabinet, having found it utterly out of the possibilities to return all the calls they receive during the "season," propose this Winter to exercise a discretion in the matter. All who know the extent to which these ladies are occupied in their social duties, will readily appreciate the necessity of such a resolution. They receive hundreds, almost thousands, of calls of etiquette from absolute strangers, and so long as they are "at home" once a week, rendering everybody welcome, it should not be expected of them that they will, in every case, return card for card through the long list who throng their parlors during a Winter. They cannot devote more time than heretofore to such duties, and yet that time has hitherto been insufficient for these formal demands of etiquette.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The monthly report of the Bureau of Statistics shows that, of the total amount of imports for the nine months ending Sept. 30, 1870, $355,286,947 consisted of merchandise, and $18,608,048 of gold and silver. The dutiable merchandise amounted to $339,892,305, and free of duty $34,902,684. Entered for consumption, $218,722,971; entered for warehouse, $155,172,018. Of the total amount of exports, specific values, $271,458,428 was in merchandise, and $56,613,768 in gold and silver. Of the total amount of merchandise, $262,483,231 was exported from Atlantic ports, and $8,975,227 from Pacific ports. Of the total amount of foreign exports, $12,640,044 was merchandise, and $10,503,994 was gold and silver. The total valuation of foreign commodities remaining in warehouse on Sept. 30, 1870, was $51,061,972, against $56,250,290 in 1869.

Effects of the Drouth in Connecticut—Steam-Engines Required for the Mills.

From the Hartford Times, Dec. 24.

Owing to the unparalleled lack of rain during the year 1870, the people of Connecticut are likely to have an unpleasant Winter. Farmers complain that they have to drive their cattle long distances to water, no rain having yet reached the lower springs since March or April. In some cases the owners of stock have to take them a distance of two or three miles for water. It makes a laborious Winter of it, and the stock cannot thrive as well.

Manufacturers also feel the want of water. Supplies which have never before been known to fail have totally given out. It produces stoppage and delay in manufacturing throughout Connecticut, and throws thousands of working people out of employment, temporarily perhaps, but disastrously—happening, as this trouble does, at the beginning of Winter.

Many manufacturers who have hitherto relied successfully upon unfailing water-power are now putting up steam-engines. A dozen steam-engines have lately been ordered, chiefly in this city, for old and well-known water-power mills east of the Connecticut River. Among them are many of the largest factories in Rockville. We hear that the New-England and Hockanum Mills have put up large engines, and the Rockville and American are each putting up one. Others of the Rockville mills are said to be also about to resort to steam-power. The water-power at Rockville is obtained by the outlet of Snipsic Lake, which was seemingly made narrow by nature "on purpose for a dam" and a waterfall. This stream, the Hockanum River, never fails. This year is an exception. All the mills on it, from Rockville to the Connecticut River, are idle now except such as are running by steam. Even the lake itself is no longer a water-supply.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

The Embassy to France—Weakness of the Foreign Attitude—Warlike Movements—Mr. Seward's Visit—Opposition to a French Tax—New Gun-boat—The Hong Kong and Shanghai Cable.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HONG KONG, Tuesday, Oct. 25, 1870.

The much-talked-of Embassy to France is at length fairly under way, CHUNG HOW and his suite being announced to leave Tien-tsin on the 20th. The idea of sending him was, as you will recollect, for a time abandoned, but M. DE ROCHECHOUART, the French Minister, was less easily satisfied than was supposed. The execution of the fifteen coolies, who, as I anticipated, turn out to be at most only indirectly, if in any way, concerned in the massacre, and the nominal banishment of a few Mandarins, does not seem to him to meet the justice of the case. He wants the ringleaders, who are perfectly well known and got-at-able, punished; but this the Chinese are unwilling to do. So, as a last resource, CHUNG HOW has been packed off to make the best terms he can with the French Government—if indeed he finds any Government existing when he reaches his destination. Should Paris still be in a state of siege he will, very probably, return without effecting anything, in which case immense damage will be done to foreign prestige in this country. We all hope, however, that the Prussians will take some means of showing their abhorrence of the crime, apart from the position in which France and Prussia may then stand toward each other. CHUNG HOW's suite includes several foreigners, among whom are Messrs. NOVION and IMBEST, (French,) of the Customs service; Mr. BROWN, (not Mr. BURLINGAME's, Secretary,) also a Customs officer, and M. DEVERIA, the Interpreter of the French Legation at Pekin, a well-intentioned youth of rather strong anti-Chinese proclivities, and therefore a tolerably safe "go-between" in the coming negotiations. Whether the envoy will visit the United States on his homeward voyage is uncertain, but I am given to understand that it is very probable. I should mention that M. ROCHECHOUART's rejection of the terms offered by the Pekin Government met with the full concurrence of his official colleagues.

WEAKNESS OF THE FOREIGN ATTITUDE.

A want of proper firmness on the part of the foreign Ministers is charged against them by the China papers. Otherwise, say they, such inadequate satisfaction as that offered would never have been proposed by the Chinese. It is noteworthy that in the edict banishing the Mandarins and decreeing the decapitation of the fifteen coolies no mention whatever is made of Europeans being the victims of the massacre. This might not strike you, at a distance, but residents know full well the intense desire entertained by the authorities to prevent those dwelling in the provinces from knowing that their countrymen had been executed for so trivial an offense as torturing and killing a few "foreign devils."

WARLIKE MOVEMENTS.

The native forces are being drilled assiduously, and those resident in the North declare that they never saw such activity on the part of the Chinese before. They evidently expect a "heavy time" of it, and are not quite confident in the success of CHUNG HOW's mission of apology. They try very hard to persuade themselves, however, that there is "nothing to fear." A good story is going the rounds, illustrative of the unwillingness of the higher Mandarins to believe that any power can be superior to that of the Emperor. TING FUTAI, it appears, took with him to Tien-tsin two English-speaking Chinese, one of whom, named YUNG WING, is a graduate of Yale College, and the other a pupil of one of the Parisian schools, not unnaturally thinking that their knowledge of Western manners and modes of thought would be useful in the present emergency. Soon after their arrival they were summoned before TSENG KWO FAN, the well-known Chinese General and Viceroy, and minutely questioned upon the resources of the "barbarian" kingdoms they had visited. France was a special subject of inquiry, and presently TSENG said, "Which of these Western nations do you consider the strongest?" "France," answered the pupil, who had profited by French tuition. "Why," vociferated the Viceroy! "Because its army is numerous, and its people fierce." "More so than those of the Middle Kingdom?" "Yes." The Viceroy could not conceal his rage at this audacious answer. "Away with him to execution," he cried, and the executioners immediatetly laid hands on the unfortunate interpreter. TING, who had introduced him, and other high Mandarins, fell upon their knees, and besought the irate Viceroy to spare his life, and commute his punishment to official degredation—a request that was most unwillingly acceded to. No better illustration could be found of the feeling which underlies Chinese policy, as expounded by those now in power. They do not want to hear the truth, and may yet have to expiate their willful blindness in a war which is certain to humiliate them.

ARRIVAL OF MR. SEWARD.

The Shanghai papers of Oct. 18 contain notices of the arrival of Hon. W. H. SEWARD, who, it is said, proposes visiting the north before finally leaving China. Nothing could be more satisfactory to American residents in China than this proposition. Mr. SEWARD will be able to see for himself the actual state of affairs, and we shall be content to abide by his opinion. His nephew, Mr. GEO. F. SEWARD, United States Consul-General at Shanghai, was recently entertained at a dinner got up by his friends, last Monday. In the speech which he made in response to the toast of his health, he made some interesting remarks about his success at home in persuading the Government to reorganize the Consular service. Both he and Admiral RODGERS expressed their opinion of the plain duty of foreign representatives in China, in connection with the late disturbances, in a manner highly satisfactory to their hearers.

NO FRNCH TAX.

Some trouble has arisen owing to a tax imposed by the French Municipal Council, on the Chinese resident within their concession. These latter have, point blank, refused to pay it, and thus the matter rests for the present—though if France assumes the offensive they will doubtless have to pay up with unmerciful interest.

Another Chinese gun-boat has been launched from the Kiangnan Arsenal. She is 206 feet long and has 32 feet beam, carrying eight 24-pounders and two heavy pivot guns. Her estimated speed is nine knots. This makes the fifth gun-boat from the native stocks, and is very creditable to her builders. Unfortunately, the possession of these few foreign-built gun-boats tends to make the Chinese extremely conceited. "Jack," however, says that "them gun-boats is worth the trouble of catching if there's a war, while a —— junk aint worth powder and shot;" so if war should supervene the gun-boats will afford satisfaction to somebody.

BULL-FIGHTS IN CHINA.

An interesting paper was recently read on this subject by our erudite countryman, Dr. MACGOWAN, who stated that bull-fighting was a favorite amusement in some parts of China. The Chinese are, however, more humane than the Spaniards, as they pit bull against bull, instead of against men.

THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI CABLE.

The Danish vessel *Tordenskjold* returned yesterday from laying the shore end of the cable, which she buried in lat. 22° 16' N., and lon. 114° 50' E. So before long the two ports will be in close communication. The recent typhoon mentioned in my last did considerable damage to vessels on the coast, but few total losses are reported. Locally we have no news of interest to New-York readers. FATSHAN.

Cold Weather in Virginia.

STAUNTON, Va., Dec. 25.—The weather in West Virginia and the Valley of Virginia is intensely cold—the coldest experienced for many years. Mercury touched zero here at daybreak. At Lexington it was 24° below freezing point. At Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Va., it was 40° below freezing point and ice is six inches thick.

Meteorological Record.

The following is the Signal Service report of the state of the weather and wind last night, Sunday, Dec. 25, at 11:35 o'clock:

Place of Observation.	Height of Barometer.	Thermometer.	Direction of Wind.	Velocity of Wind.	Pressure of Wind.	Force of wind.	State of the weather.
Cheyenne	30.18	10	W.	12	.75	Brisk.	Clear.
St. Paul	30.25	2	N. W.	24	2.00	Very brisk.	Clear.
Duluth	30.14	2	N. W.				Clear.
St. Louis	30.28	16	S. W.	12	.75	Brisk.	Clear.
Milwaukee	30.07	15	S. W.	15	.75	Brisk.	Clear.
Chicago	30.14	16	S. W.	24	2.00	Very brisk.	Clear.
Mobile	30.08	47	S.	6	.03	Very gentle.	Clear.
Milwaukee	30.07	16	S. W.	22	1.50	Very brisk.	Clear.
Cincinnati	30.20	20	S. W.	22	1.50	Very brisk.	Clear.
Toledo	30.22	19	S. W.	22	1.50	Very brisk.	Clear.
Cleveland	30.20	17	S. W.	22	1.50	Very brisk.	Clear.
Lake City	30.20	11	S. W.	22	1.50	Very brisk.	Clear.
Augusta, Ga.	30.30	32	S.	3	.03	Very gentle.	Clear.
Pittsburg	30.24	22	S. W.	12	.75	Brisk.	Clear.
Buffalo	30.28	22	S. W.

BEETHOVEN.

Recent Musical Observance of the Centennial Anniversary of the Composer's Birth.

In all parts of the world where German is spoken, something has doubtless been done within the last ten days to honor the centenary of BEETHOVEN's birth; but when the reports of these doings come to us, New-York will have no cause to blush for her supineness. In addition to the magnificent concert of the Philharmonic Society, already recorded, other societies of a more limited scope did all that in them lay to express that gratitude to the departed great which is so pleasant either to witness or to feel.

PERFORMANCE OF "FIDELIO."

The Beethoven Maennerchor, as was to be expected, were foremost in upholding the glory of their great protagonist. On Friday evening week they occupied the Academy of Music, and performed "Fidelio." It happens that the rare opportunities of hearing this one of the four or five greatest operas ever written, generally occur when there is technically said to be "no opera;" but whatever the circumstances, no true musician would willingly fail to be present. The audience of Friday could not be called a fashionable one, for the regular Academy *habitués* were not all there. Still less could it be pronounced unfashionable, but rather noticeable for the number of persons it contained having the look of travel and culture, and intellectua distinction. They were rewarded for their pains, for the performance, taken as a whole, was unusually fine.

In "Fidelio" the chorus and orchestra are of even more consequence than the principal parts; and on this occasion the orchestra being very good, the chorus really superb, and the principal parts at least respectable, there was little room for criticism, and ample leisure to enjoy undisturbed the lovely music. Of this there is little to be said that has not already been said a thousand times before. Still, one may record the satisfaction with which he listens to strains, every bar of which he anticipates, and yet finds on the rehearing that it is as fresh, as profound, and as delightful as ever. BEETHOVEN had no occasion to depart from that law of beauty which hampers lesser men; he could sound the lowest depth of sorrow or despair without needing to be harsh or ceasing to be majestic. The chorus of the unhappy prisoners who, after years of confinement, are permitted, at the prayer of *Fidelio*, to enjoy once more the air and sunshine, is a subject admirably suited to BEETHOVEN'S genius, and in his broad and noble, yet solemn periods, we realize intensely the feelings of men who have suffered for so long a time that even their thankfulness is tearful and dejected. This justly famous number was splendidly given on Friday night, by a chorus which had made the study of it a labor of love; and, full as the house was, we could have wished its audience doubled, that more might have enjoyed so great a musical treat. Mme. LICHTMAY was the *Leonora*, and Mlle. ROEMER, *Marcelline*. Both ladies possess good voices and some cultivation, and if they share somewhat largely in the prevailing faults of the modern school, they sing with a conscientious correctness, and a freedom from affectation very pleasurable to hear. *Pizarro* and *Rocco* were represented by Messrs. FRANOSCH and VIERLING, *Florestan* by a fine if rather impulsive tenor, Mr. CARL BERNARD, and the little part of *Zagnino* was gracefully filled by a competent artist, Mr. THEODORE HABELMANN. But in speaking of each individual, we come back to his or her crowning merit, viz., the way in which the individuality was subordinated to the desire of contributing to the completeness of the whole—a merit which rendered this representation, got up without hope of profit, and mainly by amateurs, worthy of repetition and of warm praise.

BEETHOVEN CONCERT.

With German robustness, however, the Beethoven Maennerchor proceeded to give another, and wholly different entertainment, entirely from the works of BEETHOVEN, on the Saturday evening following. While the great concert of the Philharmonic was going on, there was another in a little hall in Fifth-street, where the master was honored with equal fervor. The programme comprised the rarely-heard overture, "The Opening of the House," or, as we should put it, the "Dedication of the Temple," for the fresh, joyous march, and the bursts from the wind instruments turn the thoughts to Greek skies and temples, and processions of priests and virgins, and the suggestion is heightened by the final rejoicings of the multitude. The quartet No. 16, for piano, violin, viola and violoncello, that followed, was delightfully played by Messrs. PECHER, DANZ, ZEISS and WERNER. This is one of those early works of BEETHOVEN, in which the influence of HAYDN and MOZART are still traceable. Why can we so seldom hear a string quartet in New-York? The andantino was so exquisitely tender and melodious that one cannot believe that such music would be unacceptable to the most uncultured ear. The *pièce de résistance* was a solo and chorus from the oratorio "Christus am Oelberge"—a grand and impressive, but most difficult work, sung with much power and heartiness by a large chorus. The solo introduced us to a Mme. DAVIS, who went courageously through an arduous task, and whose beautiful voice we should be happy to hear again. The rest of the programme was in keeping with the instances described, and we can only wish that such concerts were more numerous, and that concert-givers and goers could be brought to see that a sufficient variety is attainable by adhering to the works of one master, or, at least, one school.

THE VOCAL SOCIETY.

Our old friends of the Madrigal Society, whose concerts for the past two years have been the veritable gems of the season, have constituted themselves anew under the less distinctive name of the Vocal Society, and gave their first soirée at Steinway Hall on the evening of the 15th. Only three madrigals were sung, but these were as quaint and charming as ever, and were received with all the old enthusiasm. Among our best choral societies it is hard to discriminate in the order of merit, but certainly the singing of the chorus from MENDELSSOHN'S "Antigone" at the concert, left nothing to be desired. And we may say as much of the interpretation of the ineffably solemn and beautiful "Passion" music of HAYDN, which this Society has had the great merit of introducing to a New-York public. We are, therefore, the more surprised at the want of all sense of keeping which could allow the Society to bestow its time and capacities on such vulgar rubbish as the "Champagne Song," and to sing it on the same evening with really grand and elevated works, and also to give up so much of their programme to modern songs which, however well sung—and that of Mr. BECKETT was admirably sung and drew forth a unanimous encore—were yet entirely out of harmony with the madrigals on the one hand, and the noble German choral works on the other. When the ear is hungering for more madrigals and more music of the far Elizabethan time, it is depressing to be landed in the nineteenth century once more.

The Discovery of that Desert Ship.

To the Editor of the Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise:

A dispatch, a day or two ago, informs the public that the desert ship has actually been found, and that parties have gone out "armed and equipped according to law" for the purpose of resurrecting the vessel. But the strangest part of the announcement is that "J. A. TALBOT, of the San Bernardino *Guardian*, goes with the party to write up the history of the ship, so far as it may be ascertained from probable discoveries." In the language of JONCE HOOPER, "this calls to mind a little recollection." In 1865 this deponent wrote from Mariposa, Cal., to the *Enterprise* a lengthy obituary of the above-named JOSHUA A. TALBOT. The information was received from a lifelong associate and friend of TALBOT'S. In the letter (which was extensively copied by your exchanges) I gave many interesting and romantic incidents in the history of TALBOT'S life—including his election as first State Printer of Mississippi, his commission as Lieutenant in the United States Navy, his adventures in the Mexican War, in Yucatan, on the Amazon River, in California, and finally of his death from starvation on a desert in Arizona. This is the same old JOSH TALBOT, and his ghostly account of the phantom ship ought to prove interesting—for he died once on a desert near where the ship has been found. I have no objection to the selection of historian made by the wreckers; but I do object to a man coming to life after having so fine an obituary so extensively circulated. However, the history of that phantom ship could not be written by a better ghost than that of J. A. TALBOT.

CURRENT NOTES.

Wages at the Portland quarries have lately been reduced from $1 75 to $1 50 per day.

Chicago has a new Court-house, upon the building of which a sum of $416,767 56 has already been expended.

The Providence *Press* insinuates that the Crispins are the only strikers who maintain their principles to the "last."

The New-Jersey State Lunatic Asylum officials are sorely tried at present in their efforts to find accommodation for 600 patients.

Although the town of Berkeley, Mass., contains only 800 inhabitants, its female residents have earned $6,000 during the year at straw-sewing.

Montreal, Canada, is in hopes that the Provincial Parliament will pass a bill during the present session giving it the right to lay out a public park.

Gov. CLAFLIN was seriously ill last week. On some days his physicians did not permit any of his friends to visit him, but on Saturday he was much better.

Upon further investigation, the Schenectady *Star* finds that the statement in regard to the alleged suicide of Chancellor LANSING cannot be sustained.

The new cattle disease has become quite prevalent in the western part of Litchfield County, Connecticut. Gov. ENGLISH has taken measures to have it "stamped out."

Rev. D. A. LONG, of Harrisonburg, Va., was recently stopped by highwaymen, robbed of his watch and money, stripped of his clothing and cut severely with a whip.

A joint stock company is forming at Meriden, Conn., with the avowed object of prosecuting the liquor-dealers under the new law, which makes it a crime to sell adulterated wines and liquors.

The San Francisco papers announce the return to that city of a boy, not yet quite nine years of age, who has traveled alone all the way to Chicago and back, without either a pass or money.

A boy, named COOKE, who had gone into a stable to rest, near Calvert, Texas, quite recently, was mistaken for a wild beast by an affrighted brother, and his brains blown out with a shot-gun.

Prof. W. D. GUNNING, of Boston, who recently lectured with success at Stamford, Conn., on the "History of the Creation," is to be asked to deliver the same lecture in this City before the close of the season.

Mrs. ELIZA LEESON, a native of Canada died recently in the Almshouse at Hartford, Conn., in her one hundred and eleventh year. Her father, at his death, had completed his one hundred and twelfth year.

The New-York State Veterans of the War of 1812 are to meet in Convention at Rochester on the 9th of January, for the purpose of taking steps to collect the money awarded to them by the Legislature.

A courageous lady, named TILE, saved the life and property of her husband, at Philadelphia, a few nights since, by putting a burglar to flight after he had made the husband insensible with chloroform.

The Attorney-General of Michigan has decided that the county in which the Vanderpool murder case originated, is responsible for all the expenses of prosecuting it to the end, no matter where it might be ordered for trial.

The Alumni of Yale residing in the West assembled in Chicago a few nights ago at their fourth annual dinner, and proclaimed that there was much need of more young blood in the corporation of the venerable University.

The Women's Christian Association, of Utica, announces that it "aims to improve the physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual condition—particularly of young women who are dependent on their own exertions for their support."

Mrs. MARY P. BROOKS, mother of the late PRESTON S. BROOKS, and sister of Chancellor CARROLL, of South Carolina, died recently in that State at the age of ninety-six years.

A convention of planters will assemble at Jackson, Miss., on the 23d of next month, with the object of devising some general plan of co-operation for the correction of the abuses which have impaired the efficiency of the labor system of the State.

FRANK P. PROUD, a dangerous individual, who has been locked up at Burlington, Vt., for some days past, on a charge of having attempted to fire the city, has written to the *Free Press*, to say that "the way of the transgressor is hard," and to belittle himself for the "base and unskilful, not to say idiotic way," in which he tried to accomplish the destruction of life and property.

The statement that the wheat crop of California in 1871 will fall short of what it was in 1870, is answered by the San Francisco *Bulletin* as follows: "We learn that 300,000 acres of land not heretofore sown in wheat, is in wheat this year, on the west bank of the San Joaquin. With an average crop of twenty sacks to the acre, which is not an extravagant estimate for new lands in that valley, if the season is moist enough, the yield of this virgin soil will be 6,000,000 sacks. At $2 per sack, the present price, this would realize $12,000,000—more than the whole value of the exported crop of last year."

The Los Angeles Vigilance Committee—They Take a Murderer from Jail and Hang Him.

Correspondence of the San Francisco Alta.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 17, 1870.

The movements among the Vigilantes came to a head this morning. At 10 o'clock 300 armed men assembled in Stearn's Hall, elected Mr. SIGNOURET President, and the meeting at once proceeded to the discussion of the case of MIGUEL LACHENAI for the murder of JACOB BELL, on last Wednesday, and other murders which he is known to have committed. After a brief session it was unanimously decided to hang LACHENAI. At 11 o'clock the Vigilantes were divided into three companies and marched through the streets to the jail, being joined in the way by nearly a thousand people, the majority of whom re-echoed the cry of "Hang him." Arriving at the jail, guards were stationed at different points to prevent any interference with their work, and a party commenced battering down the doors, which occupied fully half an hour. Entering LACHENAI'S cell, a rope was put about his neck and he was led out into the street. At this point the excitement was intense, all being eager to get a sight of the man who had committed so many cold-blooded murders. The Vigilantes surrounded LACHENAI and conducted him to a corral some two squares away from the jail and hung him, at 11:40 A. M. In the words he was given time to speak he confessed his guilt, but expressed no regrets. The Sheriff and his officers made all the resistance possible, but they were unable to raise a man to assist them, all believing in the justness of the Vigilantes' action.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

At the Exchange, during the past week, but three public sales have taken place, and in each instance the property sold was disposed of by order of the Supreme Court in foreclosure. The transactions were in themselves unimportant, and the sales in the aggregate amount in value to but $39,770—a small total for the week. Two of these were made on Wednesday by A. J. BLEECKER, SON & CO., and WM. KENNELLY, respectively, and the other by ROBERTS & MCGUIRE on Thursday. During the week, also, several sales have been postponed, but those reported above comprise all the business transacted. In regard to the market there is but little change from last week. The volume of private transactions continues large, and brokers report a good feeling, property being firmly held, with no disposition to sell at lower figures than the ruling rates, as is always the case at the holiday season. No great degree of activity prevails in any branch of business, but it is the general impression that soon after the opening of the year, real estate will improve. In anticipation of this state of affairs, several large and important sales are already projected for the middle of January, upon the result of which considerable depends. Should it prove favorable, other lots will be brought forward, and the existing dullness will be materially relieved. For the present week business is mainly confined to legal sales, some of which are noticed to take place. Today, of course, the Exchange, like other marts of public business, will be closed, and during the other days of the week it is hardly probable that much interest will be manifested, as none of the proposed transactions are of such magnitude as to attract public attention. Such sales as are effected will, as usual, be reported from day to day in this column.

The transfer record of the week is given below. In reference to New-York property the recorded value is not as great as for the week previous, while in Brooklyn the market seems to be improving, if the number of transfers and the aggregate value may be taken as an indication. For the week ending Friday, Dec. 16, the totals of the table stood as follows: Number of transfers in New-York, 90; value of property transfered, $2,177,415; number of transfers in Brooklyn, 114; value of property, $558,877. For the past week, ending Friday, Dec. 23, the following is the record:

	No. of transfers. New-York.	Value.	No. of tranfers. Brooklyn.	Value.
Saturday, Dec. 17	15	$273,400	29	$141,800
Monday, Dec. 19	13	422,500	19	111,570
Tuesday, Dec. 20	12	171,000	19	101,870
Wednesday, Dec. 21	13	256,425	21	122,261
Thursday, Dec. 22	19	428,040	22	212,800
Friday, Dec. 23	16	297,284	33	147,186
Totals	87	$1,849,059	143	$836,487

A careful review of the transfers shows that several important transactions are included in the list, and of these the following are the most noticeable:

Plot and buildings thereon, s. s. 30th-st., 110.10 ft. w. of Lexington-av., 91.8x102.2 ..... $100,000
House and lot w. s. 5th-av., 50 ft. s. of 46th-st., lot 25x100 75,000
Plot No. 5, Fort Washington property, Martin's map, containing about 29 City lots 70,000
Plot No. 6, Fort Washington property, Martin's map, containing about 31 City lots 80,000
Plot s. w. corner Lexington-av. and 59th-st., 100 x115 62,500
Houses and lots n. s. 42d-st., 300 ft. w. of 9th-av., plot 75x100.4 60,000
Houses and lots s. s. 27th-st., 100 ft. s. of 10th-av., plot 100x98.9 55,000
Premises No. 444 Broadway, sold in 1868 110,000

In the Brooklyn list for the week we also find the following transfers of note:

Plot of ground e. s. Clinton-av., 250 ft. n. of Greene-av., 100x200 ..... $78,000
House and lot n. s. Remsen-st., 75 ft. w. of Clinton-st., lot 25x100 40,000

Among the leases of New-York property recorded during the week, several are of interest, as follows:

Grand Hotel, s. e. corner Broadway and 31st-st., leased for 9 7-12 years, at the following rates per annum: 8 7-12 years, $42,000; 3 years, per year, $48,000; 3 years, per year $52,000
Premises Nos. 420 and 422 Broadway, and premises Nos. 279 and 281 Canal-st., leased together for 5 years, rent per year 25,000
Premises No. 93 Liberty-st., leased for 5 5-12 years, rent per year 4,200

At private sale JOHN H. PORTER, real estate broker, corner of Third-avenue and One Hundred and Twenty-fifth-street, reports having recently disposed of the following property at the prices annexed:

3-story brown-stone house and lot, No. 356 East 121th-st., house 18.9 by 50, lot 18.6 by ¼ block.. $15,000
3-story brick house and lot, No. 125 East 126th-st., house 12.6 by 40, lot 12.6 by 99.11 8,000
2 lots n. w. corner 3d-av. and 104th-st., each 25 by 100, sold together 18,000

Real Estate Transfers.

NEW-YORK.

Clinton-st., w. s., 174.6 ft. n. of Hester-st., 25x100, h. and l $25,000
Washington-st., e. s., 99.2 ft. s. of Hoboken Ferry-st., 20.6x61 40,000
Washington-st., e. s., 99.2 ft. s. of Hoboken Ferry-st., thence n. 15.7x61x7.6x15.11x1x52 .....
13th-st., s. s., 322 ft. w. of Avenue C, 16x103.3 7,500
32d-st., s. s., 185 ft. e. of 7th-av., 20x66.8, h. and l.. 9,900
44th-st., s. s., 320 ft. e. of 6th-av., 18.6x100.5 16,500
46th-st., s. s., 300 ft. w. of 6th-av., 50x100.4 34,000
80th-st., n. s., 275 ft. e. of 4th-av., 100x100 17,500
109th-st., s. s., 0.4 ft. e. of 10th-av., 799.8x still E—x still E., 283x204.10x—x201.10x188x100x100.11x100x—x350x100.11x12½x100.11x30x63.11x30x210, ½ part 7,500
107th-st., s. s., 318 ft. e. of 9th-av., 42x132.7x102.1 ½ part 160,000
The land included within 9th-av., 107th and 108th and 109th sts., in front or adjoining above, ½ part 28,000
151st-st., s. s., 150 ft. e. of 10th-av., 350x99.11 28,000
5th-av., w. s., 61.11 ft. n. of 124th-st., 19.6x80, h. and l 28,000
10th-av. and 50th-st., n. w. corner, 125x100, irregular, ½ part 8,000

Lease Recorded.

Church and Chambers sts., n. w. corner, 3 years, per year $11,000

KINGS COUNTY.

Brooklyn.

Baltic-st., s. s., 180 ft. w. of Kingston-av., 50x 255 ..... $5,000
Bainbridge-st. and Saratoga-av., centre line, thence w. 915 ft. x thence n. 270.2 .....
McDonough-st. and Saratoga-av. centre line, thence w. 894.5x270.2 .....
Halsey-st., centre line, 488.5 ft. from L. Lefferts, 488.5x49.3 125,000
Macon-st. and Saratoga-av., centre line, thence n. 304 ft. x thence e. 385.6x224.6x179.11.
Decatur-st. and Saratoga-av., centre line, thence n. 270 ft. x thence e. 827.7 .....
Bainbridge-st. and Saratoga-av., centre line, thence e. 821.6 ft. x thence s. 203.2 .....
Eldert-st., s. e. s., 100 ft. n. e. of Evergreen-av., 243.1x19.1x—x—, q. c. ..... nom.
Elliott-place, e. s., 150 ft. n. of Hanson-place, 21x 90.6x10x15x100 17,000
Halsey-st., n. s., 60 ft. w. of Tompkins-av., 20x 100, h. and l 5,500
Jefferson-st., s. s., 125 ft. s. of Liberty-av., 100 x90 2,800
Jefferson-st., s. s., 229 ft. s. of Liberty-av., 25 x90 275
Rutledge-st., s. s., 190 ft. w. of Bedford-av., 40 x100 1,400
Stockton-st., n. s., 200 ft. e. of Tompkins-av., 200 x100, h. and l 4,100
Wall-st., n. w. s., 80.1 ft. n. e. of Broadway, 20x 72.7 1,350
14th-st., s. w. s., 115 ft. n. w. of 3d-av., 16x91, three story brick, q. c. 1,000
Pennsylvania-av., e. s., 100 ft. s. of South Carolina-av., 25x110, h. and l 1,700
Sheperd-av., e. s., 100 ft. n. of Bay-st., 100x200 5,600
Washington-av., s. s., 425 ft. w. of 3d-st., 25x100.. 200

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

Cortlandt.

Howard and Broad sts., s. w. corner, 50x115 ..... $2,200

Ossining.

Albany Post road and Ward-av., n. e. corner, J. Branique's $15,925

New-Rochelle.

North-st., w. s., adjoining C. Clinton's, 121x450.. $1,350

Rye.

Ridge-st., adjoining Abram Merritt's, 10½ acres. $500

West Farms.

2d-st., s. s., 62 ft. e. of Avenue A, 62x100 ..... $1,000
2d-st., s. s., 62 ft. w. of Avenue B, 62x100 1,000
Avenue B and 2d-av., s. w. corner, 62x100 1,000

NEW-JERSEY.

Newark.

Somerset-st., w. s., 88 ft. n. of Waverley-place, 25x100 ..... $1,200
Waverley-place and Somerset-st., westerly corner, 21.10x88.7 900
Waverley-place, n. s., 25 ft. w. of Somerset-st., 25x87.8 637
Prince-st., w. s., 562 ft. from Spruce-st., 25x100.. 800
Gold and Holland sts., n. w. corner, 75x100 1,050

Orange.

Essex-st., w. s., 320 ft. w. of White-st., 54x100.... $12,500

Woodside.

Twelvefoot-alley, w. s., 325 ft. s. of Division-st., 39.8x109 ..... $1,000

Jersey City.

North 1st-st., n. s., 150 ft. w. of Coles-st., 50x100.. $1,000
Lot No. 55, block No. 19, Powles' Hook map, 25x 100 4,000
Montgomery-av. and Newark-st., s. w. corner, 50x100 400
Lot No. 13, block No. 12, Bridge's map, 25x100.... 18,000
Waverly-st., s. s., lot No. 77, map Waverly, 25x 100 1,000
Lot No. 28, block No. 159, Harrington's map, 25 x100 250
Canal-st., lot No. 244, Bridge's map, 25x100 1,000
Madison-av., n. s., lot No. 2, O'Neil's map, 25x100 2,000
Lot No. 29, block No. 339, Sisson's map, 25x100.. 875

Bayonne.

Union-av., w. s., 76 ft. s. of Oakland-av., 42x125.. $4,000

Greenville.

Lots Nos. 17 and 18, block No. 6, Gould's map, 50 x100 ..... nom.

Union.

Lot No. 1,159, map of Guttenberg, 25x100..... $100

Harrison.

John-st., w. s., adjoining Arrowsmith's property, 25x189 ..... $550

CITY REAL ESTATE.

A DESIRABLE HIGH-STOOP DWELLing, with all modern improvements, 22.6x55x100, for sale very low; between 5th and 6th avs., 9th-st. Possession. V. K. STEVENSON & SON, No. 11 Pine-st.

FOR SALE OR TO LET—THE SPLENdid dwelling-house No. 150 2d-av., near 10th-st., in perfect order; possession given 1st of February, or sooner if desired. For permit apply to W. A. RANSOM, No. 384 Broadway.

BROOKLYN REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE OR TO LEASE FOR A TERM OF YEARS—A house and two lots, 25 by 100, corner of 18th-st. and 4th-av., Brooklyn. For particulars, inquire of J. M. FULLER, No. 244 Fulton-st., New-York.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

A.—MONTCLAIR, (ADJACENT TO ORANGE,) N. J.—Elegant French-roofed residence, built by owner; fifteen rooms, modern conveniences, billiard-rooms, water, laundry, large furnace, complete in every respect; five acres, lawn and garden laid out by late E. A. Bauman, landscape engineer, with spring-water lake, rustic bridges, ample stables, out-buildings; seven minutes' walk from depot; terms easy. HAMILTON & WALLIS, No. 9 Nassau-st., corner Pine.

ILLINOIS COAL LANDS FOR SALE, situated in the counties of Will and Grundy, sixty miles from Chicago, on the line of Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad.

The tract is the most valuable in the State, and contains a rich workable vein of coal.

Price, $150 per acre.

Apply to

GEO. W. HUBBELL,
No. 802 Broad-st., Newark, N. J.

ORANGE, N. J.—VILLAS, VILLA SITES and farms, a great variety, beautifully situated one hour from N. Y., for sale low. Also, country-seats and houses to let for the season, or year, by BLACKWELL & SMITH, No. 243 Broadway, N. Y., 9 to 11 A. M.; Orange, corner Main and Cone sts., 1 to 5 P. M.

DWELLINGS TO LET.

TO LET OR FOR SALE—AT ELIZABETH, a comfortable 12 room house; modern fittings; near depot; 45 minutes from Wall-st.; 50 trains daily—commutation 11 cents per trip, on favorite line of travel. Inquire at West Elizabeth (Jersey-st.) station, or address C. C., Box No. 235 Post-office, New-York.

TO LET—A FEW COMMODIOUS FLATS OR complete suites of rooms in an apartment building on the French plan, under the permanent care of a janitor. Inquire of CHARLES C. WAKELY, No. 104 East 10th-st., New-York.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

OFFICES TO LET IN THE BIBLE-HOUSE, 4th-av., 8th and 9th sts. Desirable rooms, singly or en suite, on second story, fronting on Astor-place; rooms heated by steam. Apply at Treasurer's office, 4th-av.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

E. H. LUDLOW & CO., Auctioneers.

EXECUTOR'S SALE OF THE ESTATE of A. J. Cipriani, at 12 o'clock, Jan. 26, 1871, at the Exchange Sales-room, No. 111 Broadway, New-York, viz.: Buildings and lots, No. 11 Pine-st., No. 73 Nassau-st., and No. 43 Liberty-st.; six-sixteenths in packet ships of the Black Ball line; $2,890 scrip Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company, and 404 acres 111 perches of land in Monroe County, Penn. Particulars at auctioneers' office, No. 3 Pine-st.

FINANCIAL.

Montclair Railway

NEW-JERSEY

7 PER CENT. GOLD 1ST MORTGAGE BONDS,

INDORSED BY THE

NEW-YORK AND OSWEGO

Midland Railroad Co.,

FOR SALE IN

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OF

$1,000, $500 AND $100.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES EXCHANGED AT MARKET RATES.

SEND FOR CIRCULAR AND MAP.

LEONARD, SHELDON & FOSTER,

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NO. 10 WALL-ST.

8 per Cent. Interest FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS

OF THE ST. JOSEPH AND DENVER CITY RAILROAD COMPANY.

Principal and Interest Payable in Gold.

105 MILES COMPLETED, and in operation, the earnings on which are in excess of interest on the total issue. Grading finished, and ONLY 6 MILES OF TRACK ARE TO BE LAID TO COMPLETE THE ROAD. Mortgage at the rate of $13,500 per mile. Price 97½ and accrued interest. We unhesitatingly recommend them, and will furnish maps and pamphlets upon application.

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V. K. STEVENSON & SON,

No. 11 Pine-st., New-York,
OFFER FOR SALE THE
SOUTH AND NORTH ALABAMA RAILROAD
8 PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS,
INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL IN GOLD.

GUARANTEED BY STATE OF ALABAMA.

Length of road from Montgomery to Decatur, 183 miles; 107 completed; iron and ties for 15 additional now on the ground, which will complete 122 miles, leaving but 61 to complete, upon which a large amount of work has been done. Land grant over 200,000 acres; local business good, and through connections unsurpassed.

Passenger and freight cars are now running over this road from Montgomery to Lime Kilns, which completes the AIR LINE to New-York, and insures a business more than sufficient to meet the interest on all bonds issued.

The Bond is three times secured.

First—By the mortgage on the land.

Second—By the Guarantee of the State of Alabama.

Third—By the LARGE capital INVESTED in the road.

Either of which is sufficient to secure the bonds. Price 95 and accrued interest, in currency. For map, pamphlets, &c., apply to or address the agents.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,

NO. 59 WALL-ST.,

Issue COMMERCIAL and TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE IN ALL PARTS of the WORLD.

PROPOSALS FOR $250,000 DOCK BONDS OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.—Sealed proposals will be received at the Controller's Office until WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28, 1870, at 2 o'clock P. M., when the same will be publicly opened, for the whole or any part of the sum of $250,000 of Dock Bonds of the City of New-York, authorized by chapter 383, laws of 1870, and by a resolution of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, passed Dec. 14, 1870. Said bonds will bear interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, payable on the 1st day of May and November in each year, and the principal will be redeemed on the 1st day of November, 1901.

The proposals will state the amount of bonds desired, and the price per one hundred dollars thereof; and the persons whose proposals are accepted will thereupon be required to deposit with the Chamberlain the sums awarded to them respectively, together with any premiums thereon.

On presenting to the Controller the receipts of the Chamberlain for such deposit, the parties will be entitled to receive certificates for equal amounts of the par value of the sums awarded to them, bearing interest from the dates of payment.

Each proposal should be sealed and indorsed "Proposals for Dock Bonds of the City of New-York," and inclosed in a second envelope addressed to the Controller.

The right is reserved on the part of the Controller to reject any or all of the bids, if in his judgment the interests of the Corporation require it.

RICHARD B. CONNOLLY, Controller.
CITY OF NEW-YORK, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CONTROLLER'S OFFICE, Dec. 20, 1870.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 51 WALL-ST., CORNER WILLIAM, NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1870.

THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY will close on the 31st inst., preparatory to its annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks terminating during the year prior to the 1st of January next, are requested to furnish an account of the premiums thereon and a statement of all claims for return of premiums, to prevent discrepancy in the accounts.

J. H. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY, No. 145 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1870.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT on and after the 23d day of January, 1871, all transfers of stock of this Company will be made at the Union Trust Company in the City of New-York—that for the purpose of perfecting the change of the transfer-office to the Union Trust Company as required by resolution of the Board, the transfer-books will be closed at the close of business on the 31st day of December, instant, and remain closed until the morning of Jan. 23, 1871, then to be reopened at the office of said Union Trust Company.

O. H. PALMER,
Secretary and Treasurer.

NATIONAL BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECtors of this Bank and for Inspectors of the next ensuing election, will be held at the banking-house, No. 124 Bowery, on TUESDAY, the 10th day of January next, between the hours of 12 and 1 P. M.

G. G. BRINCKERHOFF, Cashier.

GROCERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIrectors of this Bank will be held at the banking-house, on the 10th day of January next, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock.

SAMUEL B. WHITE, Cashier.

STUYVESANT BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR FIFteen Directors and three Inspectors of Election of this Bank will be held at their banking-house, No. 744 Broadway on TUESDAY, Jan. 3, 1871, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.

JOHN VAN ORDEN, Cashier.

MONEY TO LOAN ON DESIRABLE IMproved and unimproved City, and Brooklyn improved real estate; mortgages promptly cashed; principals only dealt with.

WM. SINCLAIR, JR., & CO., No. 3 Pine-st.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of the STAR FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY will be held at the office of the Company, No. 96 Broadway, Jan. 9, 1871, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock.

JAMES M. HODGES, Secretary.

FINANCIAL.

Tanner & Co.,

BANKERS,

NO. 49 WALL-ST.,

NEW-YORK,

DEALERS IN

Stocks, Bonds and Gold.

First-class Investment Securities on hand, among these the First Mortgage 8 per Cent. Gold Bonds of the ST. JOSEPH AND DENVER CITY RAILROAD COMPANY, issued upon a completed road at the rate of $13,500 per mile.

Loans negotiated. Advances made.

Interest allowed on Deposits either of Currency or Gold.

VERMILYE & CO.

BANKERS,

16 and 18 Nassau-st., New-York.

DEALERS IN ALL ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.
BUY AND SELL ON COMMISSION
RAILWAY STOCKS, BONDS AND GOLD,
MAKING LIBERAL ADVANCES.
INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.

TO INVESTORS.

I have for sale, at low prices, first-class guaranteed

RAILROAD

AND

MUNICIPAL BONDS,

paying 7½ to 10 per cent. interest on the cost.

NO. 3 NASSAU-ST.

O. E. WOOD.

JAMES G. KING'S SONS, BANKERS,

NO. 54 WILLIAM-ST., NEW-YORK.

Issue letters of credit on London and Paris, available in all the principal cities on the Continent. Buy and sell exchange on London, Paris, Amsterdam, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

OFFICE OF THE IRVING FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 9 WALL-ST.

AT AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS, held on Monday, Dec. 5, 1870, the following-named gentlemen were duly elected for the ensuing year:

MASON THOMSON,	CHAS. BURKHALTER,
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON,	JOHN NASH,
BENJAMIN J. HART,	JOSEPH ROGERS,
JOHN ROMER,	STEPHEN WRAY,
SYLVANUS S. WARD,	ISAAC ODELL,
ALEXANDER MCKENZIE,	BELA SQUIRE,
JOHN B. HOBBY,	JOHN W. DEGRAUW,
CHARLES STERLING,	JOHN WADSWORTH,
JOHN CALDER,	ROBERT A FORSYTH,
WRIGHT GILLIES,	WINFIELD S. HANFORD,
DAVID B. MOSES,	JOSEPH MEEKS,
	WILLIAM FERDON,
	MARTIN L. CROWELL.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board of Directors, MARTIN L. CROWELL, Esq., was unanimously re-elected President.

JAMES M. WILSON, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE MARYLAND COAL COMPANY, No. 12 TRINITY BUILDING, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1870.

AT AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS, held on the 12th inst., the following gentlemen were elected Directors of the MARYLAND COAL COMPANY for the ensuing year:

James Hoy, New-York.	Harry Conrad, New-York.
Chas. L. Anthony, New-York.	Chester W. Chapin, Springfield, Mass.
Sam'l F. Barger, New-York	Richard Sullivan, Boston.
Henry R. Kunhardt, New-York.	James H. Hoyt, Stamford, Conn.
Elliott F. Shepard, New-York.	David T. Hotchkiss, New-Haven, Conn.
Henry L. Dyer, New-York.	

And at a meeting of the Board of Directors, held this day, HARRY CONRAD was elected President; HENRY R. KUNHARDT, Vice-President, and HARRY E. HOY, Secretary and Treasurer.

NEW-YORK AND NEW-HAVEN RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, CORNER 27TH-ST. AND 4TH-AV., NEW-YORK, Oct. 19, 1870.

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS.—A meeting of the Board of Directors of this Company, held at their office, in the City of New-York, on Tuesday, Oct. 18, inst., the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That an installment of twenty-five dollars ($25) per share upon the scrip stock of this Company be and is hereby called for, payable on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1871.

In conformity with the above resolution, the transfer-books of this Company will be closed on the 20th day of December next, and remain closed until the 5th day of January, 1871, both days inclusive.

Stockholders will, in all cases when making payments for above installment, send or bring their scrip certificates, in order that the payment of second installment may be indorsed thereupon. By order of the Board. JOHN T. SHELTON, Treasurer.

CLEVELAND, COLUMBUS, CINCINNATI AND INDIANAPOLIS RAILWAY COMPANY, CLEVELAND, Dec. 28, 1870.

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this Company will be held at the office of the Company, in Cleveland, Ohio, on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 25, 1871, between the hours of 11 o'clock A. M. and 2 o

SHIPPING.

THE ANCHOR LINE OF STEAMERS

Sail every SATURDAY and alternate WEDNESDAY to and from Glasgow and Derry. Passengers booked and forwarded to and from all railway stations in Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Norway, Sweden or Denmark, to America, as safely, speedily, comfortably and cheaply as by any other route or line.

"EXPRESS" STEAMERS.		"EXTRA" STEAMERS.	
Caledonia	Sat. Dec. 31	Tyrian	Wed., Dec. 28
Anglia	Sat., Jan. 7	Britannia	Wed., Jan. 11
Australia	Sat., Jan. 14	Iowa	Wed., Jan. 25
India	Sat., Jan. 21	Tyrian	Wed., Feb. 8
Columbia	Sat., Jan. 28	Britannia	Wed., Feb. 22
Europa	Sat., Feb. 8	Iowa	Wed. March 8

And every SATURDAY and alternate WEDNESDAY thereafter, from Pier No. 20 North River, New-York, at noon.

RATES OF PASSAGE, PAYABLE IN CURRENCY, TO LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, OR DERRY:

First Cabin $75 and $75, according to location.
Cabin excursion tickets, good for 12 months securing best accommodations, $130.
Intermediate, $33; Steerage, $28.
Certificates, at REDUCED RATES, can be bought here by those wishing to send for their friends.
Drafts issued, payable on presentation.
Apply at the Company's offices to
HENDERSON BROTHERS, No. 7 Bowling-green.

CUNARD LINE.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIPS, BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR.

Russia, Wednes., Dec. 28; Abyssinia, Weds., Jan. 18
Palmyra, Thurs., Dec. 29 | via Halifax.
Parthia, Wednes., Jan. 4 | Siberia, Thursday, Jan. 19
Samaria, Thursday, Jan. 5 | Cuba, Wednesday, Jan. 25
Algeria, Wednesday, Jan. 11 | Aleppo, Thursday, Jan. 26
Calabria, Thursd., Jan. 12

RATES OF PASSAGE.

By the Wednesday steamers, not carrying Steerage:
First Cabin, $130, gold. Second Cabin, $80, gold.
First Cabin to Paris.....$146, gold.
By the Thursday steamers:
First Cabin, $80, gold. Steerage, $30, currency.
Steerage tickets from Liverpool and Queenstown and all parts of Europe at lowest rates.
Through Bills of Lading given for Belfast, Glasgow, Havre, Antwerp and other ports on the Continent, and for Mediterranean ports.
For freight and cabin passage apply at the Company's office, No. 4 Bowling-green.
For steerage passage at No. 111 Broadway, Trinity Building.
CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, Agent.

INMAN LINE FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

Royal Mail Steamers are appointed to sail as follows:
CITY OF CORK, (via Halifax,) Tuesday, Dec. 27, 9 A. M.
CITY OF BROOKLYN...Saturday, Dec. 31, 1 P. M.
CITY OF LIMERICK...Saturday, Jan. 7, 7 A. M.
CITY OF LIMERICK, (via Halifax,) Tuesday, Jan. 10.

And each succeeding SATURDAY and alternate TUESDAY, from Pier No. 45 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

PAYABLE IN GOLD.		PAYABLE IN CURRENCY.	
1st Cabin	$75	Steerage	$30
To London	80	To London	35
To Halifax, N. S.	20	To Halifax, N.S.	10

Passengers also forwarded to Antwerp, Rotterdam, Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, at reduced rates.
Tickets can be bought here at moderate rates by persons wishing to send for their friends.
For further information apply at the Company's office.
JOHN G. DALE, Agent.
No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

(VIA QUEENSTOWN,)
CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAILS.

THE LIVERPOOL AND GREAT WESTERN STEAM COMPANY will dispatch one of their first-class full-power iron-screw steam-ships from PIER NO. 46 NORTH RIVER, EVERY WEDNESDAY as follows:

NEVADA, Capt. GREEN.....Dec. 28, at 10½ A. M.
COLORADO, Capt. T. F. FREEMAN. Jan. 4, at 2½ P. M.
WISCONSIN, Capt. WILLIAMS...Jan. 11, at 9 A. M.
MANHATTAN, Capt. FORSYTH. Jan. 18, at 2½ P. M.
MINNESOTA, Capt. J. W. FREEMAN, Jan. 25, at 9 A. M.
IDAHO, Capt. PRICE.....Feb. 1, at 2½ P. M.

Cabin passage, $80, gold.
Steerage passage, (Office No. 29 Broadway,) $30, currency.
For freight or cabin passage apply to
WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 63 Wall-st.

NATIONAL LINE.

STEAM TO LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN, From Pier No. 47 North River.
PENNSYLVANIA, LAWSON, Saturday, Dec. 31, at 12 M.
HELVETIA, GRIOS, Saturday, Jan. 7.
Passage to Liverpool or Queenstown: Cabin, $75 and $65; currency: steerage, $30 currency.
Prepaid steerage tickets from Liverpool, Queenstown, Londonderry and Glasgow, $32 currency.
For further particulars apply at the Company's office, No. 69 Broadway.
F. W. J. HURST, Manager.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE.

THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAM-SHIPS BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT BREST.
LAFAYETTE.....ROUSSAU...SATURDAY, Dec. 31
VILLE DE PARIS. SURMONT..SATURDAY, Jan. 28
For freight or passage apply to
GEO. MACKENZIE, Agent, No. 58 Broadway.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY'S
THROUGH LINE TO

CALIFORNIA AND CHINA.

FREIGHT AND PASSAGE GREATLY REDUCED.

Through rates, New-York to San Francisco:
First Class. $125 to $170. Steerage. $60.
according to the location of berth.
These rates include berths, board and all necessaries for the trip.
Steamers of the above line leave Pier No. 42 North River, foot of Canal-st., at 12 o'clock noon
ON 4TH AND 20TH OF EACH MONTH,
except when those days fall on Sunday, then the day previous.
One hundred pounds of baggage free to each adult. Medicine and attendance free.
JAN. 4, OCEAN QUEEN, Capt. CONNER, connecting with COLORADO, Capt. PARKER.
Departure of 20th every month will touch at San Jose Guatemala.
Steamer of AMERICA will leave San Francisco Feb. 1, 1871, for China and Japan.
All freight for San Francisco will go fast, and be received until 4 P. M. Tuesday, Jan. 3.
Freight for Central American and South Pacific ports will be received until 4 P. M. on Saturday, Dec. 31, 1870, only. All the usual facilities afforded shippers in collecting inland charges, &c.
For freight or passage tickets, and all further information, apply at the office, Pier No. 42 North River.
F. R. BABY, Agent.

FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRAZIL.

UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.
REGULAR MAIL STEAMERS sailing on the 23d of every month:
NORTH AMERICA, Capt. G. B. SLOCUM, Dec. 23.
DENMARK, Capt. WISE, Jan. 23.
SOUTH AMERICA, Capt. E. L. TINKHAUGH, Feb. 22.
These splendid steamers sail on schedule time, and call at St. Thomas. Para, Pernambuco, Bahia and Rio de Janeiro, going and returning. For engagements of freight or passage, apply to
WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 5 Bowling-green, New-York

U. S. MAIL TO HAVANA.

ATLANTIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY, sailing regularly every THURSDAY at 3 o'clock P. M. precisely, from Pier No. 4 North River.
ORIZABA, CASTLE, Capt. ADAMS, (via Nassau) Dec. 29
COLUMBIA, Capt. E. VAN SICKLE.....Jan. 5
MISSOURI, Capt. J. B. EDWARDS, (via Nassau) Jan. 12
For freight or passage apply to
A. W. DIMOCK, President.
No. 5 Bowling-green.

FOR NASSAU, N. P.,

CARRYING THE ROYAL MAILS.
Atlantic Mail Steam-ship Company's steamer COLUMBIA, Capt. E. VAN SICKLE, will sail Dec. 15, at 3 P. M. from Pier No. 4 North River.
For freight or passage apply to
A. W. DIMOCK, President,
No. 5 Bowling-green.

HAVANA, SISAL AND VERA CRUZ.

New-York and Mexican Mail Steam-ship Line, leaving Pier No. 17 East River, at 3 P. M.
CLEOPATRA, Philips.....Thursday, Dec. 29.
CITY OF MEXICO, Timmerman...Saturday, Jan. 7.
CLEOPATRA, Phillips.....Wednesday, Jan. 18.
CITY OF MERIDA, Deaken.....Saturday, Jan. 28.
For freight or passage apply to
F. ALEXANDRE & SONS, No. 33 Broadway.
Cleopatra goes to Havana only; takes no passengers.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.,

THE FLORIDA PORTS,
AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.
GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE.
CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA AND ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD.
FOUR STEAMERS A WEEK,
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS.
THE STEAM-SHIPS
LEO, Capt. DEARBORN, TUESDAY, Dec. 27, from Pier No. 16 East River, at 3 P. M.
MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents,
Nos. 61 and 62 South-st.

GENERAL BARNES, Capt. MALLORY, THURSDAY, Dec. 29, from Pier No. 36 North River, at 3 P. M.
LIVINGSTON, FOX & CO., Agents.
No. 35 Liberty-st.

SAN JACINTO, Capt. ATKINS, SATURDAY, Dec. 31, from Pier No. 8 North River, at 3 P. M.
WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 5 Bowling-green.

HUNTSVILLE, Capt. CROWELL, SATURDAY, Dec. 31, from Pier No. 13 North River, at 3 P. M.
R. LOWDEN, Agent,
No. 93 West-st.

Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT.
Superior accommodations for passengers.
Through rates and bills of lading in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Freight line.
Through rates and bills of lading in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.

C. D. OWENS, Agent, A. & G. R. R., No. 229 Broadway.	GEORGE YONGE, Agent C. R. R., No. 409 Broadway.

NOTICE TO TRAVELERS.

Families or gentlemen going to travel on the Continent of Europe, who can afford the expense of a courier, should never leave Paris without one; their services are invaluable in relieving the traveler from a multiplicity of cares and troubles respecting passports, examination and conveyance of luggage; in securing the best accommodation, in protecting the traveler from imposition, and an infinity of annoyances to which they are exposed in various parts of the Continent. Competent and trustworthy couriers and traveling servants may always be obtained by applying to the COURIER SOCIETY, No. 3 Rue d'Agar, near the Tuileries Garden, Paris.

DELAWARE AND NEW-YORK S. S. CO., Pier No. 21 N. R.—The steamer *W. W. Coit* will leave for Lewes, Del., Monday and Thursday, at 4 P. M., taking freight for all points on the Junction and Breakwater and Delaware Railroads. Returning, leave Lewes Wednesdays and Saturdays at 4 P. M.
For freight and passage apply at office on pier.

SHIPPING.

SAN DOMINGO LINE
FOR
PUERTO PLATA,
SAMANA AND SAN DOMINGO CITY.
The United States mail steam-ship
TYBEE,
Capt. E. A. DELANOY,
will leave Pier No. 4 North River, for the above ports, on SATURDAY, Dec. 31, at 3 o'clock P M.
For freight or passage apply to
SPOFFORD BROTHERS & CO.,
No. 29 Broadway.

UNITED STATES PASSPORT BUREAU.—United States passports, indispensable to travelers, issued by J. B. NONES, Passport Agent, No. 305 Broadway.

AUCTION SALES.

ALLEN B. MINER, Auctioneer.

BY ALLEN B. MINER & BROTHER,
Late Henry H. Leeds & Miner. Established. 1847.
Sales-rooms No. 56 Chambers, and No. 77 Reade-st.

ALLEN B. MINER & BROTHER will sell at auction, on THURSDAY AND FRIDAY EVENINGS, Dec. 28 and 29, AT 7½ O'CLOCK, AT THE LEEDS ART GALLERIES, Nos. 817 and 819 Broadway, corner of 12th-st., peremptory sale of fine original modern oil-paintings of the French, Flemish and Belgian schools, comprising the entire balance of invoices of Messrs. D. D'HUYVETTER, of ANTWERP, and F. A. VOGET, of AMSTERDAM, consigned to us direct, and fully equaling, if not excelling those sold to our last sale of the 21st and 22d inst. The collection embraces the latest and finest examples of the following distinguished and much-esteemed artists, and are represented by highly finished and characteristic pictures, viz:

HENDRIK F. SCHAEFELS, OF ANTWERP.
The famous picture of the "Battle of the Walcheren," taken from Motley's "History of the Rise of the Dutch Republic," unquestionably the most spirited and finest work of this eminent master in the country.

DAVID COL.
Interior and figures; painted in the happiest vein of this eminently-humorous artist, and not excelled by any painting heretofore sold in this City.

EUGENE VERBOECKHOVEN.
A large, superb Landscape, with cattle and sheep. Full of beautiful detail and elaboration.

Also works of

F. Roffiaen,	Th. Gerfrid,	G. Wints,
David de Noter,	T. Carolus,	Knyfacker,
L. Robbe,	E. Bidan,	Koek Koek,
Portellje,	Laurent de Beul,	Platoel,
J. F. Kruseman,	F. von Seben,	C. Deickert,
H. de Vos,	La Forie,	Henry de Beul,
Speldorn,	Reykelnuysen.	Schelfout,
Lamschroder,	J. Berlin,	Eversen,

And many others of excellency.

Also, a number of fine American pictures, the production of well-known resident artists.
The Galleries will BE OPEN on and after MONDAY, 26th inst., day and evening, FREE, until sale.

OFFICE OF DEPOT QUARTERMASTER, SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 7, 1870.

SALE OF GOVERNMENT STEAMER NEWBERNE.

The United States steamer NEWBERNE, with all her gear, rigging, spars, sails, boats, cabin furniture, and other appointments, will be offered for sale at public auction at the office of the Depot Quartermaster in San Francisco, on MONDAY, the 16th day of January, 1871.
The NEWBERNE is a screw-propeller of 948 tons, O. M., of 250-horse power, 36-inch cylinder and 36-inch stroke, 200 feet in length, was built of white oak, in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1862, draws about 16 feet of water when loaded, and is thoroughly well found in every particular.
In April last she received a new boiler and donkey-pump with boiler attached, and was thoroughly overhauled.
Terms cash in gold coin of the United States; 20 per cent. to be paid on the day of sale, and the balance on the delivery of the vessel.
Further particulars may be obtained of the undersigned, or at the office of Capt. WM. B. HUGHES, A. Q. M., San Francisco. C. G. SAWTELLE, Major and Quartermaster in charge of Depot.

JOSEPH HEGEMAN & CO., Auctioneers.
—WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28, AT 10½ A. M. at the Central Sales room, Willoughby, corner of Pearl-st., Brooklyn:
Large sale of handsome jewelry and silver-plated ware, fine gold watches, service sets, castors, clocks, and a general assortment of first-class jewelry from a dealer declining business; also, an elegant assortment of clocks.

SURROGATE NOTICES.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against JOB LONG, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscribers, at their office, No. 53 West 27th-st., in the City of New-York, on or before the 1st day of June next.—Dated New-York the 28th day of November, 1870.
MARTHA LONG, Executrix,
d12-1aw6mM* JOHN LONG, Executor.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against RICHARD CROWTHER, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscriber, at the office of Chamber & Pomeroy, No. 192 Broadway, in the City of New-York, on or before the 1st day of April next.—Dated New-York, the 25th day of September, 1870.
JEANETTE BARLOW, Executrix.
o3-1aw6mM*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate of WILLIAM BINNS, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscriber, at his residence, No. 139 East 115th-st., in the City of New-York, on or before the 10th day of April next.—Dated New-York, the 1st day of October, 1870.
WILLIAM C. BINNS, Executor.
o3-1aw6mM*

BANKRUPT NOTICES.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE United States for the Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of JOHN Y. SAVAGE, Bankrupt.—In Bankruptcy.—The said bankrupt, having applied to the Court for a discharge from his debts: By order of the Court, notice is hereby given to all creditors who have proved their debts, and other persons in interest, to appear at the office of the Register, No. 24 Nassau-st., in the City of New-York, on the 10th day of January, A. D., 1871, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at Chambers, of the said District Court, before Isaac Dayton, one of the Registers of the said Court in Bankruptcy, at his office, No. 202 Broadway, in the City of New-York, Room No. 4, and show cause why the prayer of said petition of the bankrupt should not be granted and why a discharge should not be granted to the said bankrupt.—Dated New-York, 9th of December, 1870.
GEO. F. BETTS, Clerk.
d12-1aw3wM*

NO. 2,859.—IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF the United States for the Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of CHARLES P. SYKES, Bankrupt.—In Bankruptcy.—Before Mr. Henry Wilder Allen, Register in Bankruptcy.—Southern District of New-York, ss.:—At the City of New-York, the 10th day of December A. D., 1870.—To whom it may concern: The undersigned hereby give notice of appointment as assignee of Charles P. Sykes, of New-York, in the County New-York, and State of New-York, within said district, who has been adjudged a bankrupt upon his own petition by the District Court of said District. JOHN SEDGWICK, Assignee.
d12-1aw3wM*

PUBLIC NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the subscriber has been appointed by the Supreme Court of the State of New-York Receiver of the estate, funds and effects of the "Continental Screw Company" of New-York, pursuant to the provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New-York, entitled "of the voluntary dissolution of corporations."
All persons indebted to the said Company are hereby required to render an account of all debts and sums of money owing by them, and to pay the same to the said Receiver at his office, No. 74 John-st., in the City of New-York, by the 1st day of February next; all persons having in their possession any property or effects of the said Company are required to deliver the same to the said Receiver by the same day; all the creditors of the said Company are required to deliver their respective accounts and demands to the said Receiver by the 1st day of February next, and all persons holding any open or subsisting contracts of the said Continental Screw Company, are required to present the same in writing and in detail to the said Receiver at his said office, No. 74 John-st., on the said 1st day of February next.
HENRY A. HOWE, Receiver,
No. 74 John-st., New-York.
Dated NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1870.
d26-1aw2wM

CITY OF NEW-YORK, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, BUREAU OF THE RECEIVER OF TAXES, COURT-HOUSE, PARK, No. 32 CHAMBERS-ST, Dec. 22, 1870.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all persons who may have omitted to pay their taxes to pay the same at this office before the 1st day of January, 1871. On and after that date interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, calculated from Oct. 6, 1870, to day of payment, will be added. On the 15th day of January, proximo, warrants will be issued for the collection of all personal taxes remaining unpaid on that date.
BERNARD SMYTH, Receiver.

SAVINGS BANKS.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK,
Chatham-square and New Bowery, New-York.
Is now receiving deposits from $1 to $5,000, entitled to interest as from Jan. 1, 1871, at the rate of six per cent. per annum,
FREE OF UNITED STATES DEPOSIT TAX.
ASSETS (principally invested in United States bonds and New-York City bonds and mortgages,) December, 1870.....$2,007,762 92
DEPOSITS—Inc. accrued interest to date, December, 1870.....2,714,000 00
Surplus over all liabilities.....$193,762 92
HARRISON HALL, President.
J. P. COOPER, Secretary,
C. D. BAILEY, Treasurer.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
No. 233 BOWERY, NEAR HOUSTON-ST.
SIX PER CENT. interest allowed on all sums from $5 to $10,000. Deposits made now draw interest from Jan. 1. GERMAN SPOKEN. Open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 to 7.
ALFRED T. CONKLIN, President.
HENRY C. FISHER, Sec'y.

METROPOLITAN SAVINGS BANK.
NOS. 1 AND 3 THIRD-AV., NEW-YORK, opposite Cooper Institute. SIX PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on ALL SUMS of $5 and upward.
ONE DOLLAR RECEIVED.
INTEREST COMMENCES JAN. 1, on deposits made now.
ISAAC T. SMITH, President.
T. W. LILLIE, Secretary.

THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK,
Corner of 3d-av. and 26th-st.
Open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings, from 6 to 8 o'clock. Six per cent. interest paid on all sums from $1 to $5,000.

HARLEM SAVINGS BANK—CORNER 124th-st. and 3d-av.—Open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.; also on MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS from 5 to 7 P. M. Deposits made now draw interest from Jan. 1.
THOS. B. TAPPEN, President.
JOHN S. RUXTON, Secretary.

SAVINGS BANKS.

MANHATTAN SAVINGS INSTITUTION.
NO. 644 BROADWAY, CORNER BLEECKER-ST., Dec. 16, 1870.

The trustees of this institution have declared the Fortieth Semi-annual Dividend, on all deposits by the rules entitled thereto, at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, payable on and after the third Monday in January. Also an extra dividend of One-half of One per Cent. of the accumulated surplus, payable at the same time.
Dividends not withdrawn will receive interest the same as a deposit. E. J. BROWN, President.
EDWARD SCHELL, Treasurer.
C. F. ALVORD, Secretary.

EXCELSIOR SAVINGS BANK.
No. 368 6th-av. (Booth's Theatre.)
Interest at rate of Seven per cent. per annum will be paid on all sums remaining in Bank Jan. 1, 1871, that were deposited on or before July 20 and Oct. 20. Payable on and after the second Monday in January.
Also, an EXTRA DIVIDEND of One per cent. on all sums of $1,000 and under, deposited before Aug. 1, 1869, remaining in Bank Jan. 1, 1871.
Money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1.
WILLIAM M. GILES, President.
H. K. THURBER, } Vice-Pres.
HUGH MURRAY, }
ISAAC S. BARRETT, Secretary.
Parties at a distance can send deposits by mail, and receive their books by return post.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
NO. 96 WARREN-ST., NEW-YORK,
SIX PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on all sums. Deposits made now will draw interest from Jan. 1. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
WALTER W. CONCKLING, President
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

A "CAPITAL" PRESENT FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

A BANK-BOOK, WITH A DEPOSIT IN THE
MUTUAL BENEFIT SAVINGS BANK,
SUN BUILDING, NO. 168 NASSAU-ST., N. Y.

IT MAY BE THE FOUNDATION OF A FUTURE OF COMFORT AND PROSPERITY. WHAT OTHER GIFT IS SO FULL OF PROMISE?

Interest commences every month.

Married women and minor children have exclusive control over their deposits.

Parents may accumulate a fund for their children, thus teaching them the habit of saving, and inculcating lessons of prudence and economy.

One dollar will open an account.

Money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1.

A semi-annual DIVIDEND, at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, will be payable Jan. 21. Dividends not withdrawn receive interest the same as deposits.
CHARLES K. GRAHAM, President.
G. H. BENEDICT, Secretary.

THE SIXPENNY SAVINGS BANK,
ASTOR-PLACE.

This old savings institution, the pioneer in the enterprise of taking SMALL DEPOSITS, calls the attention of PARENTS, HUSBANDS, RELATIVES and EMPLOYERS to the subject of HOLIDAY PRESENTS, and recommends the presentation of a BANK BOOK with a suitable deposit, as a truly beneficial and acceptable CHRISTMAS or NEW-YEAR'S GIFT. There is no class of institutions so well calculated to benefit all society in a pecuniary way as savings banks, and none that impart to the people such sound and practical ideas of individual industry and economy as the surest path to wealth and independence. Let every one have a savings bank book, man, woman and child. Let all know the value of keeping a bank account, so that they may see how much they earn, how much they spend year after year. A bank book will teach your wives and daughters how to manage their own affairs. There are lessons that are taught without cost by a savings bank; their moral and practical value is almost incalculable. Let, therefore, all who have good and faithful servants, who have poor relatives, those who have children, let every man who has a wife whom he loves and respects, procure a bank book with a suitable deposit, as the most useful and beneficial Christmas or New-Year's gift.
BANK OPEN DAILY FROM 10 A. M. TO 8 P. M.
Six per cent. interest, free of taxes. Deposits received from 5 cents to $5,000.
WM. MILES, President.
J. S. SLOAN, Secretary.

NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK.

THE FREEDMAN'S SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY,
(Chartered by the Government of the United States.)
No. 185 Bleecker-st.

DEPOSITS OVER $2,000,000.

INTEREST payable or compounded, free of all taxes, THREE TIMES in each year, or every thirty days, as depositors prefer. A specialty made of allowing interest from date of each deposits on sums of $50 and upward, so that funds may not be idle for months as in most Banks, but may return an income promptly. Married women and children have exclusive control over their money deposited in the National Savings Bank. All accounts strictly private and confidential. Deposits can be sent by express. All deposits payable ON DEMAND, with interest due.
Especial advantages afforded to trustees, guardians and others, having in charge trust funds; also, to societies, lodges, divisions, associations, &c.
Open daily from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M., and MONDAYS and SATURDAYS from 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.
JOHN J. ZUILLE, Cashier.

EXTRA DIVIDEND.

UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK,
Canal-st., corner of Broadway.
The Board of Trustees have THIS DAY declared the usual half yearly dividend of THREE (3) PER CENT.; also an extra dividend of ONE PER CENT. (being FOUR PER CENT. for the current six months,) to all depositors entitled thereto; payable on or after Jan. 21.
If the Interest is not withdrawn it will be credited the account, and bear interest from Jan. 1, as an original deposit

ASSETS, $8,012,460 76.

Money deposited now will bear interest from Jan. 1.
JOHN McLEAN, President.
N. J. HAINES, } Vice-Presidents.
W. S. WHITLOCK, }
G. S. CHAPIN, Treasurer.
T. S. ARMOUR, Secretary.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1870.

EAST RIVER Savings Institution,

NO. 2 CHAMBERS-ST.
FORTY-FIFTH SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.
INTEREST AT THE RATE OF SEVEN (7) PER CENT. PER ANNUM will be paid on all sums which have remained on deposit for three or six months previous to the 1st day of January, 1871. Interest not called for will be credited as an original deposit.
Bank open daily from 10 to 3, and on Thursdays from 10 to 7.
WILLIAM H. SLOCUM, President.
CHARLES A. WHITNEY, Secretary.

EXCELSIOR SAVINGS BANK,
No. 368 6th-av., (Booth's Theatre.)
INTEREST AT THE RATE OF SEVEN PER CENT. PER ANNUM,
will be paid on all sums remaining in bank Jan. 1, 1871, that were deposited on or before July 20 and Oct. 20. Payable on and after the second Monday in January.
Also, an
EXTRA DIVIDEND OF ONE PER CENT.
on all sums of $1,000 and under, deposited before Aug. 1, 1869, remaining in bank Jan. 1, 1871.
Money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1.
WILLIAM M. GILES, President.
H. K. THURBER,
HUGH MURRAY,
Vice-Presidents.
ISAAC S. BARRETT, Secretary.
N. B.—Parties at a distance can send deposits by mail, and receive book by return post.

PEOPLE'S SAVINGS BANK,
1,146 BROADWAY, BET. 26TH AND 27TH STS.
The usual semi-annual interest at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum on all sums entitled thereto on the 1st day of January will be paid on and after Jan. 20.
Interest not drawn will be added to the depositor's account and draw interest the same as a deposit of Jan. 1.
All money deposited on or before Jan. 20 will draw interest from Jan. 1.
FREDK. OLMSTEAD, President.
CHARLES T. RODGERS, Secretary.

Broadway Savings Institution,

NO. 937 BROADWAY, entrance on Park-place.
Interest on deposits entitled thereto, for the six months ending Dec. 31, at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum on all sums of $5 and upward, will be paid on and after MONDAY, Jan. 16, 1871.
FRANCIS P. SCHOALS, President.
WADE B. WORRALL, Sec. PETER CUMMING, Asst.

THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK.
Corner 3d-av. and 26th-st.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.
INTEREST.—Semi-annual interest at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, on all sums from $1 to $5,000, will be paid on and after the THIRD MONDAY in January.
Interest will be added to accounts Jan. 1, and if not drawn bear interest as new deposits. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY EVENINGS from 6 to 8 o'clock
SPENCER K. GREEN, President.
WM. B. BIBBINS, Secretary.

BOWLING-GREEN SAVINGS BANK.
NO. 33 BROADWAY.
Deposits of any sum, from 10 cents to $10,000, will be received. SIX PER CENT. interest free of Government tax. Interest on new deposits commences on the first of every month.
HENRY SMITH, President.
REEVES E. SELMES, Secretary.
WALTER ROCHE, } Vice-Presidents.
EDWARD HOGAN, }

MARBLE MANTELS.

MARBLE AND MARBLEIZED MANTELS of the latest imported patterns. Monuments, at reduced prices. A. KLABER, Steam Marble Works, No. 124 East 126th-st., near 3d-av., N. Y.

MARBLEIZED SLATE MANTELS,—Rich and elegant designs, from $9, $12, $15 up to $250. T. B. STEWART & CO., No. 605 6th-av., between 35th and 36th sts.

MEDICAL.

DR. B. COBBETT, MEMBER OF the N. Y. University Medical College, and R. C. Surgeons, London, can be consulted privately on certain diseases. A practice of 24 years, 20 of which have been a specialty, enables him to make speedy and permanent cures or no charge. Office 20 Centre-st., near Chambers. A private entrance at 6 City Hall-place.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

BRIGHT, CHEERFUL ROOMS, EN suite or separately, in a private family; comforts of a home offered; private table if desired; moderate terms. Apply at No. 278 4th-av., nearly opposite Calvary Church.

TO LET, FURNISHED—TWO OR three rooms, on parlor floor, to one or more gentlemen; also, room on third floor; references exchanged. No. 45 East 18th-st., between Broadway and 4th-av.

NO. 1 IRVING-PLACE, CORNER OF 14TH-ST.—Front parlors and bed-rooms, handsomely furnished, with first-class table, can now be secured by early application.

NO. 279 4TH-AV., HOUSE ADJOINING Calvary Church, two bright cheerful rooms to let with board; vacated in consequence of a family unexpectedly leaving the City.

$7 TO $10 PER WEEK.—DESIRABLE rooms, with excellent board, at Nos. 174 and 178 Bleecker-st. A Literary Society, composed of the boarders, has been established.

NO. 224 EAST 12TH-ST., BETWEEN 2d and 3d avs.; rooms to let, with or without board; carpets and furniture of the house entirely new.

WANTED—BY A SINGLE GENTLEMAN, A furnished room below 30th-st.; private family preferred. Address, stating terms, W. K. P., Post-office Box No. 1,386

FIFTY-AV., NO. 251, CORNER OF 28TH-ST.—One suite of four rooms, together or separately; private table, French man cook.

NO. 343 WEST 23D-ST.—A COMFORTably-furnished room, with board for two persons, at $14; also, a room with board for three at $24.

NO. 98 WEST 12TH-ST.—HANDSOMELY-furnished room for a family or party of gentlemen; also single rooms; house and table first-class.

GAS FIXTURES, &c.

FINE CHANDELIERS
AND
GAS-FIXTURES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, AT LOW PRICES,
IN MOST COMPLETE AND VARIED ASSORTMENT. IN GILT, CRYSTAL, REAL BRONZE, IMITATION BRONZE, and all desirable colors.
OF DESIGNS UNEQUALED IN EXCELLENCE. Appropriate for DWELLINGS, HOTELS, STORES, HALLS, CHURCHES, &c.

ALSO, GILT, BRONZE AND MARBLE CLOCKS. These movements strike the hours and half hours; have the low tick and pleasant strike of the best French clocks, and as time-keepers are warranted equal to the best, and much superior to the ordinary imported clocks.
MITCHELL, VANCE & CO., Manufacturers.
SALES-ROOMS, NO. 507 BROADWAY, Houston-st. near Manufactory, 24th-st. and 10th-av., New-York City.

PROPOSALS.

WROUGHT AND CAST IRON WORK.

POST-OFFICE AND UNITED STATES COURT-HOUSE, NEW-YORK CITY,
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, Dec. 15, 1870.

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Superintendent until 12 M., Jan. 15, 1871, for furnishing, delivering, fitting, and putting in place the cast and wrought iron work exhibited in plans, specifications and schedules now in this office, consisting of cast-iron columns, bed-plates, &c., and wrought-iron beams, girders, &c.
The work of the columns, iron beams and girders must be finished, delivered, fitted, and put in place complete, within four months after date of written notice to commence the work, and the remainder as rapidly as required by the progress of the work, and as demanded by the superintendent.
The contractors will be permitted the use of the derricks and engines in putting the work in place, without charge, but will be required to pay the time of the men employed in working them, who will be furnished by the Department when required.
Scaffolding to be furnished by the contractors.
Proposals will be made by the piece or by weight for the various castings and beams as provided for in the schedules.
The work will not be subdivided among different bidders, but will be considered in the aggregate.
Payments will be made monthly, deducting ten per cent. until the final completion of the contract.
All bids must be accompanied by a penal bond in the sum of $25,000, that the bidder will accept and perform the contract if awarded him, the sufficiency of the security to be certified by the United States Judge, Clerk of the United States Court, or District-Attorney of the district where he resides.
The Department reserves the right to reject any or all bids, if it be deemed for the interest of the Government to do so; and any bid that is not made on the printed form to be obtained in this office, and does not conform in every respect to the requirements of this advertisement, will not be considered; neither will any proposals be received from parties who are not themselves engaged in the manufacture of cast or wrought iron work, and who have not the necessary facilities for getting out the castings or rolled beams.
Proposals will be indorsed "Bids for Iron Work," and addressed to CALVIN T. HULBURD, Superintendent.

PROPOSALS FOR LETTER BALANCES.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 2, 1870.

Sealed proposals will be received at this Department until the 20th day of January, 1871, at 12 o'clock noon, for furnishing LETTER BALANCES for the use of the Post-offices in the United States for one year from and after the 1st day of February, 1871, of the following description, namely:
First—Balances capable of weighing eight ounces, avoirdupois weight, to be graduated down to quarter ounces. Of these it is supposed that 1,000 will be wanted.
Second—Balances of the same capacity, graduated by the metric or gramme system. Of this class 100 may be required.
Third—Balances capable of weighing four pounds, avoirdupois weight, to be graduated to half-ounces. Of this class it is supposed that 200 will be wanted.
Perfect accuracy, strength and durability will be required in the Balances to be furnished.
Samples of each description of Balances must accompany each bid, and the Balances may obtain the contract will be required to furnish Balances of a quality in all respects equal to the sample.
Each Balance must be well and securely packed in a box for transportation, and delivered free of all expense at the Dead Letter Agency, Washington, D

CHRISTMAS.

Continued from First Page.

vice in the First Baptist Church, a number of persons were baptized by immersion. In the afternoon especial services were held by most of the Sabbath-schools of the city. At St. Paul's M. E. Church a reunion of the former scholars of the school took place.

THE OBSERVANCES TODAY.

Preparations at the Public and Private Institutions—Good Dinners, and a Merry Time Generally.

As previously observed, the Christmas festivities have been for the most part postponed until today. At the Five Points Mission, on the site of the "Old Brewery," near Centre-street, or Worth, the 600 children will assemble in the chapel at 1 o'clock. A beautiful Christmas tree will be displayed, and Santa Claus will descend from the chimney and deal out the gifts, with humorous remarks. At the House of Industry, No. 163 Worth-street, chapel services commence at noon. At 2 o'clock 400 children will dine on poultry, &c.; at 3 o'clock they will gather around the Christmas tree in the chapel, and "the old woman in the shoe" (personated by a little girl) will distribute the gifts. There will be an address by Rev. THEO. L. CUYLER, and music by the children.

The Children's Aid Society will give their newsboys a fine dinner at 7½ o'clock P. M. at the lodging-house, No. 40 Park-place. Dinners will also be given at the Rivington-street Lodging House, No. 709 East Eleventh-street, No. 211 West Eighteenth-street, No. 125 Bleecker-street. The fair and frail now in the "Magdalen Asylum," at Fifth-avenue and Eighty-eighth-street; the "House of Mercy," at Eighty-sixth-street, North River; the "Midnight Mission," at No. 55 Amity-street, and the "Home," in Fourth-street, will all have a merry Christmas.

At the Howard Mission, No. 40 New-Bowery, there will be a jubilation of the very best kind at 12 o'clock.

The City Mission will give a dinner at 10½ A. M. to 700 of the poor, at Olivet Chapel, No. 63 Second-street, and at 3 o'clock P. M. to 350 people, at Lebanon Chapel, No. 70 Columbia-street. On each of these occasions music will be furnished by a brass band, and addresses will be made. These will be rare opportunities for visitors to get a glimpse of the New-York City Mission work, and of life among the lowly, erring and wretched.

The Mission Sunday-schools, in the Eleventh-street Church, near Avenue B, expect to have their annual Christmas gathering this evening at 7 o'clock.

At the Sailors' Homes great preparations have been made for a sumptuous dinner at 1 o'clock. Capt. BLAKE, of the Pearl-street Home, will entertain nearly 100. The Cherry-street Home will dine a large number.

The soldiers in the various forts around the harbor, and the sailors on board our vessels, and at the Navy-yard, will have an indulgence of liberty, and the addition of a fine poultry and pudding dinner to their usual rations.

At the St. Barnabas Mission, No. 302 Mulberry-street, the children will be provided with a Christmas tree at 5 o'clock P. M.

At the Wilson Mission, on the corner of Eighth-street and Avenue A, 400 children will enjoy a Christmas tree at 10 o'clock this morning. The City institutions will all have their merry-making today. On Randall's Island the children will assemble in the Chapel at 10 o'clock.

The following programme has been published.

Prayer.
Song—"The Christmas Tree." By 400 children.
Dialogue—"Our Visit to the City." Misses ANNIE BROWN and KATE CUMMINGS.
Song—"All Hail to the Dawn." By 100 large girls.
Principal's Address—"Our Savior."
Song—"Sleigh Bells." By 400 children.
Poem—"One Hundred Years to come." Miss LOUISA DOYLE.
Dialogue—"Comique." Masters WALKER and FINNEGAN.
Song—"Santa Claus." By 400 children.
"Stray Words." Five large boys.
Song—"Joyful Greeting." By 100 large girls.
Finale—"Make the Home Happy." By 500 children

The following is the *ménu*—a novelty in its way:

TABLE D'HOTE.
Poulet fricasee.
Pommes de terre, et navets.
Du pain, et du beurre.
DESSERT.
Gâteau a l'année nouvelle.
Bonbons, et pommes.
Ale d'Adam, le thé, et le café.

A good poultry dinner will be furnished to all on Ward's and Hart's Islands. All the inmates of the penal institutions will have the usual rigor of prison discipline relaxed, and some luxuries added to their fare. In all the City prisons the "boarders" will be generously fed; at the Tombs especially there will be a very pleasant time arranged by the Wardens.

The following instructions will also celebrate the occasion, today, with good dinners and distributions of gifts:

House of the Good Shepherd, foot of Ninety-eighth-street, East River; St. Joseph's Orphans' Asylum, East Eighty-sixth-street, corner of Avenue A; New-York Juvenile Asylum, One Hundred and Seventy-sixth-street; Home Industrial School, No. 244 West Thirty-third-street; Juvenile Guardian Society, No. 122 Leonard-street; Colored Home, foot of Sixty-fifth-street, East River; Orphan Asylum, Washington Heights; Union Home and School, One Hundred and Fifty-first-street; Soldiers' Homes, Cherry and Pearl streets; St. Francis' Hospital, Nos. 407 and 409 Fifth-street; Female Christian Home, No. 314 East Fifteenth-street; House and School of Industry, No. 120 West Fifteenth-street; Water-street Home for Women, No. 273 Water-street; Juvenile Guardian Society, No. 101 St. Mark's-place and No. 207 Bowery; the Dover-street Mission; Protestant Half-orphan Asylum, West Tenth-street, near Sixth-avenue; Eleventh Ward Mission, West Eleventh-street, near Avenue A.

IN BROOKLYN TODAY.

Today the principal celebration in Brooklyn will consist of Sunday-school distributions in the evening, and dinners given by the various charitable institutions. The children in the charge of Brooklyn Bethel will sit down at noon to a plentiful supply of turkey and other good things. The inmates of the Newsboy's Home will also be similarly treated, and the persons who inhabit the Home for Indigent Females, on Graham-avenue, will be visited by their friends, and made to feel that there is at least one day in the year when men feel charitable.

IN NEW-JERSEY TODAY.

Today the proprietors of the *Evening Journal*, in Jersey City, give a dinner to their employes and to over 200 newsboys, at Cooper's Hall. The children of the Sunday-school connected with the colored church on Monmouth-street, have a Christmas Festival in the church to-night. At the Bethel, on South Eighth-street, a Christmas tree has been erected, and presents will be distributed to 300 children, members of the Sabbath-school. The Germans celebrate the day after the national fashion. The Jersey City Saengerbunde will give its annual Christmas ball at Cooper Hall, and the Turnverein holds a festival at the Turnhall on South Eighth-street.

The Fantastical Gammontown Rangers, composed of the members of Engine Company No. 2, will parade during the morning in masquerade dress. The Oceanic Yacht Club partake of an annual dinner at their club-house on Van Voorst street.

Suffering Among the Poor—A Christmas Appeal.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Not long since, while attending an evening service at a mission church, a sight of suffering met my eye that I cannot forbear relating, knowing that many benevolent people would gladly give of their abundance could they know where it is needed, and will be judiciously applied.

A respectable attentive woman sitting near me fainted, and lay some time insensible from the effects of hunger. When her home was visited, six children, under twelve, one at the breast, were found; the father in consumption, trying to keep his family alive by making heavy over-coats, $5 for four, a week's work for a healthy man. Having given all their food to their children, they were famishing without uttering a complaint. Her pallid face seemed to say, "I am in Christ's stead, a hungered, and a stranger, what will you do unto me?

The next time I went to that church I saw a tall, gaunt man, leaning feebly against the wall after service. As he sunk into a seat as though his limbs could hardly sustain him, I learned that he and his wife had been without food or fire for twenty-four hours, having fed every crumb that they could obtain to their five young children. I saw also a widow who has supported her family well by washing. Just as two of her children are prostrated with diphtheria and scarlet fever she has lost all her customers who, from fear of infection, have not dared send their clothes to her. She is now penniless, out of work at the beginning of Winter, with her thinly-clad sick little ones suffering for food and clothing.

These are only a few of the many harrowing cases which daily occur in that neighborhood. They are respectable Christian people, strangers in a strange land, (mostly Germans,) frugal and temperate, and unwilling to ask charity. Unable to speak our language, they often reluctantly make known their wants through the lips of a child interpreter. They are too feeble, broken by poverty and insufficient diet, and the care of helpless children, to go to the West, where so many find relief. Temporary help has been sent to the above cases, but they need, and will for some time, far more than has been done.

Is there no rich man who will extend a helping hand to these families? Is there no woman seeking to serve Christ with her substance who will help feed these hungry mouths, and clothe these suffering children?

The Wilson Mission House, comprising a church, (undenominational,) Sabbath-school and day-school, stands where this tide of sorrow is ever flowing to its door. Ten thousand dollars has to be raised annually for its ordinary work, and is expended with studied economy and wisdom. Now that sources of employment are drying up, and Winter approaching, the number of worthy, industrious people, strangers, sick, hungry and heart-broken, is increasing fast. Who will share the blessed privilege of ministering to these weary souls and bodies, and earn the plaudits, "Inasmuch as ye did it to the least of these, ye did it unto me?"

Any sums, however small, for the relief of the above-named families, clothing or provisions, will be thankfully received and carefully bestowed. Those who choose can specify which family they desire should be relieved by their contributions.

Address Miss E. PAGET, Wilson Mission House, No. 128 East Eighth-street, corner Avenue A.

THE SKATING CARNIVAL.

The Ball Up Everywhere—Fine Sport Expected Today.

Today the signal for skating will be hoisted at the Central Park for the first time since the Winter of 1868-9, there having been no skating on the Park lakes last Winter. With the exception of 1869-70, there has been skating at the Central Park for the past ten years. In 1862 there were but six days' skating at the Park; but in the other years the skating season on the Park ponds ranged from nineteen to fifty days—the greatest number of days being in the month of January each year. The average has been thirty-one days for ten years.

We gave the regulations for skating on the Central Park ponds in yesterday's TIMES. It will suffice, therefore, to state that there will be no skating allowed at the Park unless the red ball is hoisted on the Arsenal flag-staff in the Park. Today, also, the Prospect Park ponds will be opened to the public for the first time since 1869. All the Park lakes and ponds are covered with glittering ice, and there will be special skating for the public on the Parade, commencing today. It must be generally understood that the regulations of the Park skating lakes prohibit special displays likely to attract a crowd in one portion of the pond, and also that all trials of skill or speed on the ice are prohibited, as also all games. The signal for the Prospect Park ponds will be hoisted on the flag-staff at the entrance, and also on the cars leading from the Park. The inner series of lakes are sheltered by high hills, but the larger lakes are exposed to sweeping winds, and the latter were quite dusty yesterday. The house for refreshments, &c., is completed, and on Flatbush-avenue, just at the City line, a station-house has been erected for passengers waiting for the cars.

THE RINKS.

The Empire Rink will be open for the first time this season today, and as every preparation has been made to accommodate a large number of visitors, a very lively scene will be presented at the Rink this afternoon, and especially this evening, when the Rink will be illuminated and a promenade concert will be given. The Empire City Skating Club have their headquarters at this Rink. This is the largest skating rink in America.

The Brooklyn Rink was opened on Saturday night, under the most favorable auspices, and it was thronged with visitors until a late hour. A splendid sheet of ice was provided, and the members of the Brooklyn Skating Club, who have their head-quarters here, enjoyed it heartily. Today the Rink will be open from 10 A. M. until 11 P. M., with an hour's intermission before dark to sweep the pond of cuttings.

The Jersey City Rink was also opened on Saturday, and a very picturesque scene was presented. Today an attractive programme has been prepared for Christmas. The Jersey City Skating Club have rooms at this Rink, and they will muster in force this afternoon and evening.

THE INCLOSED PONDS.

The Fifth-avenue Pond is the only inclosed skating pond in this City, and being capitally managed, it monopolizes the fashionable patronage of the City. The New-York Skating Club will meet there this afternoon, and in the evening they will have an informal reception at their rooms. The pond will be brilliantly illuminated to-night, and a band of music will perform all day. The ice is now six inches thick, and will bear cutting well.

The Capitoline Pond, in Brooklyn, has been specially prepared for today's festivities on ice, and a smooth surface of ice will be at the command of its patrons for their Christmas skating. There will be music all day, and fire-works at night. This pond will readily accommodate 6,000 skaters.

The Union Pond is the popular resort of the residents of the Eastern District of Brooklyn, and ample preparations have been made to provide for the extra crowd of people who take to the ice on Christmas Day. Music all day and illuminations at night is the order of the programme.

The residents of the Bushwick section of Brooklyn will find a popular inclosed skating pond in the well-known Favoreta Pond. They have good ice there now, and anticipate a gay time today.

All the inclosed skating ponds now have a firm foundation of clear glittering ice from four to six inches thick, and they can, therefore, defy all snow storms and even heavy rains and thawing spells, which they cannot do when the season is opened with snow-storms, and snow-ice is formed as a basis.

THE FREE PONDS.

The free skating ponds outside of the public parks, which used to be numerous, are rapidly decreasing in number—in fact, except in the extreme outskirts of the City there are none. The large pond known as the Nassau Pond, located on the line dividing Brooklyn from Flatbush, was yesterday patronized by quite a crowd of skaters. And the broad stretch of water back part of Hoboken were also used for skating purposes yesterday, thick ice covering the creeks and also the Morris and Essex Canal.

SKATING ELSEWHERE.

The National Skating Park in Washington, D. C., was opened on Friday last, and on Saturday it was crowded with skaters of both sexes, all being eager to take to the ice which they had been deprived of for two years past.

At Trenton, N. J., the new Skating Park was duly inaugurated on Saturday and a large crowd of spectators and skaters were present, including ENGLER, the champion skater of New-Jersey.

The extremely cold weather out West has been a fortunate blast for the skating rinks of Chicago, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, &c. Besides covering the inclosed skating-ponds with ice a foot thick, it has given the rinks ice thick enough to last them until March.

Jamaica Pond, Boston, will present a gay scene today crowded with skaters. The large lakes near Worcester are one sheet of ice, and all the skaters of the city will gather there today.

The Connecticut will afford the "Yanks" of its borders excellent sport for the Holidays on its frozen surface.

Up the Hudson the fleet of ice-boats are being prepared to take the ice this week. The Hudson is closed tight below West Point, and a splendid field of ice is in sight from Newburg.

THE CURLING SEASON.

The curling season of 1870 and 1871 will be inaugurated today by the Patersen Club, on Hoxsey's Pond, near Paterson. The New-York Club will also commence operations this week at their new locality on the eastern corner of the large lake at Central Park, which has been set apart for the special use of the curling clubs of the Metropolis, of which the New-York Club is the present champion organization. The first series of matches will be for the club medals. The first trials include competition in "drawing," "guarding," "chop and lie," "wick and curl in," "raising," and "chopping the winner." The members of each club have to become proficient in these preliminary exercises before they can rank as expert curlers.

BRADY'S Rink is to be the scene of several exciting curling contests, in which the Caledonians of Jersey City are interested.

The Caledonians, of Brooklyn, who indulge in curling too, are to have a rink on the Capitoline pond for special matches.

Almost a Panic in a Williamsburg Church.

At the 6 o'clock services in the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, Williamsburg, yesterday morning, an accident occurred which for a moment excited the utmost alarm in the dense congregation. Father MALONE, the pastor, having read the Gospel of the day, was about proceeding to deliver an address, when suddenly a small sheet of flame illuminated the grand altar, bringing the congregation to their feet in an excited manner. It was soon ascertained that the muslin decorations had taken fire from one of the numerous candles on the altar, and the flames were extinguished without much difficulty. The services were then concluded without further interruption.

Discharge of the Ladies Arrested for Larceny.

The frequency with which respectable ladies who venture into certain stores are arrested for larceny by the stupid attendants, has caused considerable remark, which has been intensified by the outrage of Saturday night already published in the TIMES. Yesterday the ladies—whose names are suppressed, as they are evidently guiltless—were arraigned before Justice DOWLING, at the Tombs Police Court, and both were immediately discharged, as there was not an iota of evidence against either of them. Miss LA FORGE, superintendent of the store, made the complaint upon information obtained from Officer KILL, who alleged that one of the ladies had stolen a match-safe worth forty-six cents, and that the other had stolen a bottle of hair-oil worth twenty-four cents. In the case of the first-mentioned lady the fact was that she had brought the match-safe with her before, and had forgotten it, and had returned for the purpose of exchanging it for something else, and it down on the counter, and sat waiting for a clerk to be at leisure to attend to her, but finally became tired and picked up the match-safe to go home, when she was arrested. The other case was a still greater outrage, as the lady was standing at the counter with the bottle of oil in her hand waiting to pay for it, when HILL arrested her. The friends of the ladies do not intend to allow this outrage to pass without rebuke, as in one of the cases, at least, suit will be brought against the storekeeper for damages, and in both, complaints will be made before the Police Commissioners against the policeman who made the unwarrantable arrest.

How to Be the Lord's Weak—Sermon by Rev. Geo. E. Thrall.

The free Sabbath evening services which have been held in the Church of the Ascension, Fifth-avenue and Tenth-street, for the last year and nine months, by Rev. GEO. E. THRALL, were closed last evening. The worshipers were not numerous, but they had the pleasure of listening to an earnest practical sermon from the text

"Always abounding in the work of the Lord."—I. Corinthians, XV., 58.

The work of the Lord, he showed, was that which came to the hands of Christian men and women every day, and which they too often miss by looking out for something high and great and conspicuous to do. The work of the Lord is not seen to greatest advantage in Niagara as it roars and foams over its rocky bed. The little stream that runs by the farm-house and waters the meadows and cheers and comforts the tired and weary toiler is doing the work of the Lord far better than Niagara, though its name, if it has any, may never have appeared in the newspapers and it may be unknown even to the map-makers. So also in Christian work for God the humble silent efforts to keep and to save, to comfort and to cheer our fellow-man is more precious in the sight of God than to lead armies or to command fleets, or to build castles or monuments. Every man's work is to be tried by fire, and much, if not all, of many a man's work will be thus destroyed, though he himself may be saved. The necessity, therefore, for building monuments and doing work that cannot be destroyed was urged upon the audience. At the close of the sermon Dr. THRALL said he had been ten years a pastor in Brooklyn; that he had some ideas in regard to churches and church fellowship which he wanted to carry out, but it was impossible to do so with congregations whose habits are already formed. He came to this City, and with $2 65 in his pocket and strong faith in his heart, he commenced to found a parish in the sparsely-settled neighborhood of Lexington-avenue and Fifty-seventh-street, where Emanuel Church is now being reared. No one appeared at his first service, but at his second he had seven children. He has now gathered forty families into his church, and 100 children into the Sunday-school, and has raised among these poor people $7,000. Jews, Baptists, Methodists and Roman Catholics have cheerfully aided him, and the masons, carpenters and hod-carriers, and every one engaged in the erection of the church, have contributed of their means hundreds of dollars unsolicited. The church will be finished in two weeks, and to complete it he asked for $1,000, in aid of which a collection was taken up.

THE COAL TRADE.

A General Suspension in All the Anthracite Coal Regions—Complete Tonnage for the Year.

From the Philadelphia Telegraph, Dec. 24.

Contrary to all expectations the General Council of the W. B. A., which was held on Thursday, at Tamaqua, agreed upon a general suspension, to take effect Jan. 10, 1871. It was not generally supposed that the other regions, and especially Schuylkill, would unite with Wyoming in a general strike, for the reason that Wyoming would not unite with Schuylkill when begged to do so at the time of the Schuylkill strike last Summer. But it appears that the council agreed almost unanimously to a general suspension, under the impression that it will be for their own benefit next year. To a certain extent it is to their interest, as will be seen when the whole state of the case is considered.

The strike is not, like the late one, for the purpose of resisting certain immediate demand, but has for its end a wise provision for the future. Its main end is understood to be the fixing of the basis for the next year. By means of a short suspension, which is a much better name for the present demonstration, the different regions can be made to co-operate more easily. As now understood, the suspension is not intended to continue for an indefinite time, but when the basis is fixed—probably within a week or two after—and when a compromise has been effected in the Wyoming region with the large corporations, which the latter undoubtedly expect, work will be resumed in all the counties. A strike in the Winter, at all events, is no very great matter.

Then again the time of the suspension is delayed until the 10th of January, so that ample time will be given to all who wish to do so to lay in a full supply.

Under these circumstances a great advance in the price of coal will be entirely unnecessary, and can be avoided if the people will act wisely. Of course speculators will desire to take advantage of the state of affairs, and under frail pretexts try to raise a panic and run up prices immensely. If this effort is steadily discountenanced by the public there can but little come of it. Of course some advance will take place, but this need not be so great but that it can be borne without great inconvenience to the majority.

A complete summary of the trade for the past week and year, as reported in the Pottsville *Miners' Journal* of today, shows that the whole supply of anthracite sent to market this year is as follows. But to this must be added about 475,000 tons not reported, against 450,000 tons not reported last year in either of the tables:

	Tons.
Total so far in 1870	14,539,272
Total so far in 1869	12,550,852
Increase of Anshracite in 1870 so far	1,988,420
The supply of all kinds so far:	
In 1870	16,656,069
In 1869	14,866,611
Increase of all kind	1,789,458
The increase in the different kinds is as follows:	
Increase of anthracite	1,988,420
Increase of semi-anthracite	74,971
	2,063,391
Decrease in bituminous	273,933
Total increase in 1870 so far	1,789,458

The Delaware and Raritan Canal closes operations for the season to-night; consequently there were but few boats taken upon Friday, and none today. The following are the prices of coal by the cargo at Port Richmond for shipments east of Bordentown and south of Cape Henry, and to points along the line of the Delaware and Raritan Canal for the week ending Dec. 23, 1870:

Schuylkill Red Ash	$4 50@4 70
Broken	3 60@ 3 70
Egg	4 00@ 4 25
Stove	4 15@ 4 35
Chestnut	3 10@ 3 25
Shenandoah Egg	—@ 4 40
Stove	—@ 4 40
Chestnut	—@ 3 30

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF.

NEW-YORK.

The exercises at the Howard Mission yesterday afternoon were of more than ordinary interest, and that is saying a great deal. The leading feature of the occasion was the presentation of an elegantly-bound copy of the Bible to Mr. A. S. HATCH by the young ladies, about forty in number, who are pupils in his class at the Mission. The address of presentation was delivered by Rev. Mr. VAN METER, and was feelingly responded to by the recipient. Mr. HATCH'S modest way of doing good among the lowly has endeared him to the hearts of many, and not a few homes are brighter today because of his Christian efforts. The singing by the school during the afternoon was admirable, as was their decorum also. The anthem, "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Everlasting Gates," was rendered with a degree of precision and expression seldom attained even by adult professionals. The exercises of today will be no very attractive, and will repay the visitor fully.

At an early hour yesterday morning a fire occurred in the front hall bed-room of No. 476 Sixth-avenue, occupied by one MINNIE DAVIS. Whose clothing, which was found to be insured for $3,000 in the Park Insurance Company, was damaged to the amount of $25. The building, which is owned by G. H. HEGEDORN, was insured for $4,000 in the North American, and is injured to the amount of $50. MINNIE DAVIS was arrested by the Twenty-ninth Precinct Police and held to await an examination by Fire-Marshal MCSPEDON as to the origin of the fire.

About 8 o'clock yesterday morning, a daring thief entered the shop of THEODORE JANECKE, No. 34 Eldridge-street, and snatching up several pairs of shoes ran out. He was pursued by Mr. JANECKE, who sprained his ankle in the chase, but pressed the thief so closely that he was compelled to drop the shoes in order to effect his escape. He was not caught.

A Convention of the Father Matthew and other Catholic Temperance Societies was held in Washington Hall, on Montgomery-street, Jersey City, yesterday. The object of the meeting was to consult as to the best means of furthering the temperance interests in Hudson County. A number of addresses were delivered.

At 2 o'clock yesterday morning a fire occurred on the second floor of No. 310 Centre-street, occupied by Mrs. MCLAUGHLIN, whose damage was about $30. HUGH MCNEILL, junk dealer, on the first floor, lost $200 in damage to stock by water. The building, owned by MARY MARION, was damaged about $500, and is fully insured.

MARY FEENEY, of No. 171 Mulberry-street, while crossing Grand-street, near Mulberry, last evening, was knocked down and had her left shoulder dislocated by the horses attached to a car of the Grand-street line, which were being driven by JAMES HUGHES, who was arrested and locked up in the Fourteenth Precinct Station-house on a charge of reckless driving.

RICHARD FLYNN was assaulted yesterday afternoon at the corner of Avenue D and Eighth-street by PATRICK MCLAUGHLIN, who was armed with a club, and beat him severely about the head. The assailant was arrested and locked up in the Eleventh Precinct Station-house, and FLYNN was removed to Bellevue Hospital in an ambulance.

Last evening while Officer KELLER, of the Fifteenth Precinct, was on patrol in University-place, a bull-dog made friendly overtures by jumping upon him, but KELLER stooping down to pat him, the dog seized him by the nose, inflicting wounds which compelled the officer to report at the Station-house as unfit for duty.

JOHN O'BRIEN, an insane man, fifty-five years old, was found yesterday morning by the Police in the yard at the corner of Fourteenth-street and Avenue A with both feet frozen. He was restored to his home at No. 316 East Fifteenth-street.

An affray occurred at an early hour yesterday morning at No. 12 Wooster-street, in which JOHN KIERNAN, of No. 267 Seventh-avenue, was struck on the head with a pitcher by ALICE SHAW, inflicting several severe wounds. The assailant was not arrested.

An unknown man attempted to commit suicide last evening by jumping into the East River at the foot of Twenty-second-street, but was rescued in an insensible condition by Officers LITTLE and O'NEILL, of the Twenty-eighth Precinct, and taken to Bellevue Hospital.

A fire was discovered last evening in the coal-bins in the cellar of the tenement-house No. 129 West Nineteenth-street, and was not extinguished until it had burned through the hall floor. The house was occupied by seven families.

An affray occurred last evening at No. 220 Chrystie-street, during which GEORGE LESLIE attacked ELLEN FAGIN with a shoemaker's-knife, inflicting a severe but not dangerous wound on the head. He was arrested and locked up in the Tenth Precinct Station-house.

THOMAS MCATEE, when riding in Fifth-avenue with his family and a friend yesterday, was thrown out at Eighty-second-street by the horse's running away and received a severe cut on the head. The other occupants of the carriage escaped without injury.

WM. CONNERS, a painter, who fell from and was run over by a Harlem train at One Hundred and Twentieth-street and Fourth-avenue, on the 15th inst., died yesterday at Bellevue Hospital. Coroner SCHIRMER will hold an inquest in the case.

Capt. JOHN GURMER, of the Nineteenth Police Precinct, was presented on Saturday evening with a beautiful gold shield, valued at $250, by the Union Republican Association of the Twentieth Assembly District.

JOHN BUMNER, aged two years, died last evening at No. 236 East Forty-seventh-street, from the effects of scalds received by his upsetting a pot of boiling coffee upon himself. An inquest will be held.

BROOKLYN.

During an altercation between JOSEPH SHANLEY and THOMAS MCGLYNN, at the corner of Plymouth-street and Hudson-avenue, last evening, the former stabbed the latter in the back with a knife. The wound is not a dangerous one. SHANLEY was arrested by Officer MCCARTZ, of the Second Precinct, and locked up to answer.

Miss LILLIAN S. EDGARTON, one of our most acceptable female speakers, will deliver her popular lecture, entitled, "Whither Are We Drifting?" in the Brooklyn Tabernacle, tomorrow (Tuesday) evening, Dec. 27, in aid of the Masonic Board of Relief for the Western District of Brooklyn. The Board have a great many very worthy cases of charity on their hands, and as there is great need of funds, we trust that Miss EDGARTON will have a full house on this occasion.

LONG ISLAND.

The Mayor of Long Island City calls the attention of the Common Council of that city to an advertisement of the Commissioners of Highway, of Newtown, inviting proposals for work on the highways within the city limits, and which by the charter are under the exclusive jurisdiction of the city authorities. The Newtown authorities have opposed the city movement from its inception, and the movement from the Commissioners of Highway is for the purpose of carrying to an issue the question whether a city can be incorporated within the limits of a town, and the authority of a town be abridged according to the Constitution of the State.

The Common Council of Long Island City find it hard work to keep the expenses of the city within the limits provided by the charter. It seems by the report of the Finance Committee of the Board, that notwithstanding all the repairs of streets have been stopped and a number of appropriations revoked, including the famous badge appropriation of $1,500, the total amount set apart for particular objects is $26,497, and their local estimates for future requirements amount to $3,200, making a total of $29,697—$4,697 over the amount allowed by the charter. This sum is only a few thousand dollars more than the cost of the constables alone in the town of Newtown, and is nearly $5,000 less than the cost of the Constable and Justice of the Peace of that town.

NEW-JERSEY.

JULIA BURT, a child seven years of age, living at No. 19 Steuben-street, Jersey City, while visiting some friends, yesterday, on Morgan-street, fell against a stove; her clothes caught fire, and she was fatally burned.

About 2 o'clock yesterday morning, the dead body of Mrs. CHARLOTTE HILDEBRAND, whose husband is a wholesale produce dealer in Washington Market, was found lying in the hallway of a house in Adams-street, Hoboken, near her residence. There had been a Christmas Eve party at Mr. HILDEBRAND'S, and about midnight Mrs. HILDEBRAND went out to procure some oysters at the corner grocery, but not returning within a reasonable time, search was made, and the body was found as above stated, and at first it was thought that she had been frozen to death. Coroner VOLLHARDT held an inquest yesterday, and in accordance with the evidence of the surgeons, who made a post-mortem examination, a verdict of death from heart disease was rendered.

FOREIGN MARKETS.

LONDON, Dec. 24—11½ A. M.—Business was suspended today on account of the Holidays. All the markets are closed, and will remain so until Tuesday ....On Friday American Securities and Stocks opened and closed quiet. The mid-day quotations were as follows:

Consols for money	91⅞
Consols for account	91⅞@92
Five-twenties, 1862	88¾
Five-twenties, 1865, old	88¼
Five-twenties, 1867	87¾
Ten-fortes	87¾
Erie Shares	19¾
Illinois Centrals	112
Atlantic and Great Western	28¼

FRANKFORT, Dec. 24.—American Bonds are neglected here, the attention of financial men being turned to the new German loan. United States 5-20s of 1862 were quiet at 94¼.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 23—1:20 P. M.—COTTON—The market to-day opened firm at 8⅜d. for Uplands and 8¾d. for Orleans. The sales to-day are estimated at 15,000 bales. The sales of the week have been 90,000 bales, including 16,000 bales to exporters and 4,000 bales on speculation. The stock on hand of all descriptions is estimated at 374,000 bales including 99,000 American. The receipts of the week have been 73,000 bales, of which 55,000 bales were from the United States. BREADSTUFFS—FLOUR is firmer and is higher: Western American, 22s. The last sales of Wheat were as follows: No. 2 Red Western Spring, 10s. 1d.@10s. 3d. for new, and 9s. 11d. for old; Red Winter, 10s. 7d.@10s. 8d.; White California, 11s. 2d.@11s. 4d. The receipts of Wheat for the past three days have been 27,500 quarters, of which 10,000 were from the United States. PROVISIONS are unchanged. PRODUCE—Lard declining; American, 63s. 9d cwt.

LONDON, Dec. 23—2:20 P. M.—Refined PETROLEUM dull and declining. Calcutta LINSEED is a shade firmer, and prices have advanced to 59s.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 23—Evening.—The COTTON market closed firm at unchanged prices. The sales of the day have been 15,000 bales, including 2,000 bales to speculators and exporters. The total stock afloat, from all ports, bound to Liverpool, is estimated at 449,000 bales, of which 345,000 are from the United States. LARD is easier, but not quotably lower.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 24—2 P. M.—COTTON quiet. BREADSTUFFS quiet. PROVISIONS easier; Pork, 100s.; Lard, 62s.; Beef, 122s. 6d.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—LINSEED-OIL closed easier at £29 ₱ ton.

ANTWERP, Dec. 23.—PETROLEUM closed firmer at 50½f.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 24.—COTTON firm with a fair demand; Middling, 14¼c. FLOUR steady with a moderate demand; Family, $5 30@5 50. WHEAT—The foreign news is favorable; Red, $1 16@1 18. CORN firm, scarce and higher at 52c.@54c. RYE quiet and unchanged. OATS quiet and unchanged. BARLEY—An advance is asked, but none established; $1 05 asked for Iowa Spring. Mess PORK firm with a light demand at $19. LARD firm with a light demand; 11c.@11¼c. for steam and kettle. Bulk MEATS—Full prices asked; no demand; Shoulders, 6¾c.; Clear Rib Sides, 9¼c.; Clear Sides, 10c. BACON in light demand and holders firm; Shoulders, 10c.; Clear Rib Sides, 11¼c.; Clear Sides, 12c. HOGS—Demand light; holders firm; Live, $6 15@6 25; Dressed, $7@$7 25; receipts, 3,200 head. WHISKY steady at 87c. EXCHANGE dull at 1-10 off.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24.—COTTON firm and quiet; Middling Upland, 15¼c.@15½c.; Low Middling, 14¼c.@14¾c. FLOUR active and shipping grades higher; Howard-street Superfine, $5@$5 50; do. Extra, $6@$6 25; do. Family, $6 75@$6 85; City Mills Superfine, $5@$7; do. Extra, $6 25@$7 50; do. Family, $7 75@$10; Western Superfine, $4 75@$5 25; do. Extra, $5 75@$6 50; do. Family, $6 50@$7 50. WHEAT unchanged; choice White, $1 70@$1 85; fair to prime, $1 60@$1 69; prime to choice Red, $1 65@$1 80; fair to good, $1 35@$1 60; common, $1 20@$1 30; Ohio and Indiana, $1 37@$1 40. CORN—White, active at 75c.; Yellow dull and heavy at 72c. OATS active at 52c.@54c. RYE firm at 80c.@90c. PROVISIONS nominally unchanged in every respect. WHISKY quiet at 93c.@94c.

OSWEGO, N. Y., Dec. 24.—FLOUR steady and unchanged; sales 900 bbls. at $6 50 for No. 1 Spring; $7 for Amber; $7 50 for White; $8 25 for Double Extra. WHEAT quiet and unchanged; No. 1 Milwaukee Club, $1 35; Red Winter Indiana, $1 33. CORN dull

Sales, Vapor, Newbury, Baltimore.
Sch'r. T. L. Bartlett, Chase, New-Haven.
Sch'r. Morning Star, Lynch, New-Haven.
WIND—Sunset, light, N. W., clear.

Disaster.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 25.—Br. brig Sharon, from New-York for Constantinople, was run into by an unknown vessel on the night of the 18th of December, 70 miles E. S. E. of Sandy Hook. The Captain and crew were saved by the schr. Charles F. Heyer, from Portland, which arrived at Savannah today. The brig sunk, with her decks under water, and was left in that condition.

Sloop Temperance, Mackey, from Elizabethport, for New-Haven, while passing through Hell Gate on the 25th, ran ashore on Ring Rock, and is leaking badly. She was got off and put on the beach at Astoria by Wreck-master Brown.

By Telegraph.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—Arr. steamer William Lawrence, from Baltimore; ship Euxine, from Liverpool; bark Chlotilde, from Cienfuegos.

Below—At anchor in Provincetown Harbor, ship William Woodbury, from Calcutta; bark Fredonia, from Fayal; brig Anna D. Torry, from Pensacola, with loss of sails and deck load; schr. C. C. Bearse, from Port-au-Spain.

CHARLESTON, N. C., Dec. 25.—Sld. steamers Manhattan, for New-York, and J. Weverman, for Philadelphia; bark Evanel, for Liverpool; schrs. W. L. Burroughs, for Cork and a market; J. M. Bromell, for Fernandina; Jesse Wilson, for Georgetown, D. C.; J. G. Smith, for Savannah, and John Slusman, for Wilmington, N. C.

Arr. steamer South Carolina, from New-York.

SAVANNAH, Dec. 25.—Arr. Saturday, steam-ship Sweden from Glasgow; schr. Charles F. Heyer; steamer Saragossa, from Baltimore.

Cld. Saturday, steamers Husterville and San Jacinto for New-York. Tonawanda for Philadelphia; barks Marguerita for Barcelona, Crescenia for Carcelona; schr. Cuba, Kenduskeag for Brunswick, Robt. Caldwell for Salilla.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—Arr. ship Pudsey Dawson, from Liverpool.

EUROPEAN MARINE NEWS.

Arrived Out.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 24.—The Inman steam-ship City of Baltimore, from New-York for Liverpool, arrived today at 12½ P. M.

Disasters.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The bark Panther was spoken on the 17th, and reported the loss of deck load and her Captain disabled.

Ship Norval, of Greenock, from Montreal, is ashore in Oban Bay, Scotland, and is breaking up.

Ship Baltic, from Quebec, for Sporto, is ashore at Mathasinhos (?). The crew was saved; the cargo may be.

Ship Koeningen Elizabeth, from Belfast, Ireland, for St. John, put into Tercoira leaky, and was condemned.

Ship Carrie Wright, from New-York, for Antwerp, put into the Scilly Islands, off south coast of England, with bows stove, and loss of bowsprit, having been in collision with a vessel, the name of which is not reported.

BALL, BLACK & CO.,

BROADWAY AND PRINCE-ST.,

HAVE OPENED THEIR ENTIRE COLLECTION OF NEW GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS, COMPRISING THE BEST SELECTED STOCK OF

JEWELRY, SILVER-WARE

AND

FANCY GOODS

TO BE FOUND IN THE CITY. THOSE PURCHASING FOR THE HOLIDAYS WILL FIND IT TO TH